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Pilgrims Set Out For Bethlehem

Follow Route Of The Three Wise Men

Jerusalem, Dec. 23. Pilgrims who braved biting cold and torrential rains tonight began to follow the traditional route of the Three Wise Men from the Old City of Jerusalem to Bethlehem.

About 2,500 pilgrims are expected to walk down the road used by the Wise Men to follow the Star of Bethlehem to celebrate Christmas in the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, where Christ was born.

Early tomorrow night the road will be crowded with Christian pilgrims of all denominations. But they will have to walk carefully down the road that has partly in Israeli territory and partly in Jordan.

Concrete "barriers" teeth line of barbed wire and unexploded land mines still mark the boundary which was established after the signing of the armistice early in 1949 between the Arabs and the Jews.

An Israeli official statement said today that full co-operation would be maintained between the Israeli and Jordanian authorities to facilitate the pilgrimage.

In the north of the country, a cold wave today invaded areas already devastated by the recent floods.

Snow has fallen on high places, and in Galilee the temperature fell near freezing. Last year Israeli crops were lost because of drought—this year it is feared they will be destroyed by the floods.—Reuter.

Xmas Clemency

Athens, Dec. 23. King Paul granted Christmas clemency today to Gen. Alexander Andray, wartime military governor of Crete.

Gen. Andray was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1947 on war crimes charges alleging that he directed atrocities and massacres on Crete. King Paul commuted the term to four years, and since Gen. Andray has served more than that he goes free.—Associated Press.

Seasonal Greetings

This being the last issue of the China Mail before the holiday, the Editor and his staff take the opportunity of extending to readers the wish that they will spend a happy Christmas and enjoy a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

4 US Airmen

Fined

\$30,000 Each

Budapest, Dec. 23.

A Hungarian People's Court today fined the crew of four of an American plane forced down in Southern Hungary by Russian fighters on November 19 \$30,000 each. Alternatively the four Americans were sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

Their plane and its equipment was ordered confiscated.

The aircraft, a standard C-47 United States Army cargo plane, was on a routine flight from Munich to Belgrade when it crossed the Hungarian frontier and was intercepted by Soviet fighters.

A Hungarian Government announcement tonight said that all four admitted violating the Hungarian border when their plane was forced down by Soviet fighters at Papa airfield, a Soviet air base in Hungary.

They said that during their trip, up to the time of the plane's forced landing, they were in constant contact with Frankfurt military radio stations and that their instruments were in perfect order until the last minute, according to the announcement. They also said that they flew in under good weather conditions, the announcement added.

The announcement said that they admitted that they had flown over Hungarian-restricted territory and that they had intentionally failed to signal by radio their identity and intention to land voluntarily at the Hungarian airport. They said that they flew over Hungarian territory for one hour and forty-one minutes, the announcement claimed.—Reuter.

TRUCE TALKS

Nearing End Of Deadline

MAJOR CONCESSIONS BY UN POSSIBLE

Washington, Dec. 23.

A general air of pessimism about the prospects of any workable truce in Korea was growing here today with only four days left to the December 27 deadline agreed on between the United Nations and the Chinese and North Korean negotiators.

But it is thought possible that the United States might suggest a one-month extension of the truce deadline.

Whether this will be offered, however, will depend on the progress made at the truce talks in the next few days.

The breakdown of the truce talks, still struggling through a number of major problems, would pose the necessity for important new decisions, both political and military, to be made about the future conduct of the United Nations campaign.

The initiative in making these decisions will rest largely with the United States as the senior partner in the United Nations campaign.

Observers in Washington believe that some important concessions may be made by the United Nations within the next day or two as a gesture of its own good faith.

Yesterday's invitation to the Communists to inspect the Pusan prisoner of war installations was one manifestation of this attitude.

The breakdown of the truce talks would confront the United States military leaders with important policy decisions on the future conduct of the campaign. The alternatives seemed to be:

- 1.—Whether to lift the existing "ground rules" by extending the air war beyond the Yalu River into Manchuria.
- 2.—To enter into an unofficial "armistice" by limiting the campaign to a holding operation along the existing bottling and maintaining air superiority over North Korea.
- 3.—To launch an offensive within the existing ground rules with the objective of advancing

Canal Zone Latest

Explosion Damages Rail Line

Ismailia, Dec. 23.

An explosion early today blew a 27-inch gap in the railway line near Suez. Repairs began soon afterwards. The workers were covered by two Bren gun carriers of the First Royal Sussex Regiment.

Tonight's joint Service communiqué said that there had been no major incidents in the Suez Canal Zone during the day. But minor attacks on British installations had continued "without effect."

The British Canal Zone commander, Lieutenant-General Sir George Erskine, broadcasting Christmas messages to troops today, said that the British stand in the Canal Zone "is one inspired by a desire to see peace on earth."

The British military position in the Canal Zone would continue to be "well balanced, firm and secure," he said.

"I regret that it is not yet possible to tell you that progress has been made towards a solution of our difficulties with the Egyptian Government, but it is our earnest hope that some way will be found to settle these differences before long."

"I also regret that the Egyptian Government has decided to allow civilians to carry arms without licence. This can only be read as an incitement to civilians to attack us and give some legal cover to the 'liberation units' we hear about."

General Erskine thanked the troops "for the splendid way you have responded in these difficult times."—Reuter.

MINISTERS MEET

Cairo, Dec. 23. The Egyptian Council of Ministers decided today to consider the recent decision to permit free arming of the Egyptian population.

Laws regarding penalties for collaboration with "foreign forces in the country" would also be considered, a spokesman said.

Today's meeting heard a report on the recent talks in Paris between the British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden, and the Egyptian Foreign Minister, Salah el Din. No decision was taken in a three-hour meeting, the spokesman said.

The Council also reviewed the latest developments in the Suez Zone, particularly the curfew imposed by General Erskine, British Commander in Egypt.

The Government also decided to give British officials employed by Egypt and recently dismissed, an indemnity equivalent to three months' salary and their fares home.

The spokesman said that the Ministers had refused to consider a British offer for compensation to the inhabitants of the recently bulldozed village near Suez.—Reuter.

LESS FOREIGN AID DOLLARS

Washington, Dec. 23.

President Harry Truman is reported planning to ask Congress next month for about \$1,000,000,000 less in foreign aid than he sought this year.

High officials said today the President's new budget is expected to propose his insistence on a programme close to the amount Congress was willing to pay for in the last battle over the issue.

For the year, which began July 1, the administration urged an \$8,500,000,000 military and economic aid programme for the free world. Congress finally appropriated \$5,284,000,000, making most of its cut in economic aid. A decision to reduce the ceiling price for foreign assistance was made in face of growing financial problems in the rearming of Western Europe with Britain and France in especially light economic straits.—Associated Press.

PESSIMISM

The Right Stuff!



"That's just the stuff to give the troops" says Pte E. Baxter of Willesden when he shared in the annual ceremony of mixing the Christmas pudding last week at the WRAC headquarters of Eastern Command at Hounslow.

Christmas Party Ends In Tragedy

26 LIVES LOST IN FIRE

San Diego, California, Dec. 23.

Many children were among 26 killed and 70 injured when fire swept through a Christmas party for orphans at Tijuana, Mexico, today.

The San Diego Fire Department gave these figures. Tijuana is just over the border from here. Dozens of American Servicemen, sightseeing there, rushed to help.

The screams of children and adults rose above the crackling of the flames as they sought to escape from the four-storey building.

Panic spread to the street outside as bystanders attempted to locate friends and relatives.

About 200 people were at the party when the fire was discovered.

Tijuana has only one fire brigade and the fire quickly spread through the building. A call for help was sent to the American Mobile Forestry Department at La Mesa. Blood plasma was rushed from San Diego.

All Tijuana's doctors and medical facilities were mobilised, and an army of helpers rushed to the scene.—Reuter.

MINE DISASTER

West Frankfort, Ill., Dec. 23.

Heavy rescue workers recovered the 42nd body here today from America's worst mine disaster of the year. With about 35 more bodies sighted the known death toll reached 77.

The State Mine Director, Mr. Walter Eade, reported that the final toll could easily be 100. He said that one crew of 15 to 20 men remains missing.

Rescue work near West Frankfort moved along slowly. The volunteer workers, most of them veterans of the coal pits, laboured under intense heat and against the deadly gas which had caused the explosion 170 metres below the surface.

Some of the men were roasted alive. Bodies were found pressed to the floor where men had fought in vain for breath.

Only faint hopes remained for the rest of the trapped men. Deadly gas seeped along the recesses where the explosion knocked out timbers and vital air channel locks.

The mine is one of the world's largest single shaft coal operations. A radio appeal today called for more relief workers.—Reuter.

MT ETNA ERUPTS

Catania, Dec. 23.

Black smoke began pouring from the northeast crater of snow-capped Mount Etna today. The mountain, Europe's tallest volcano, has erupted twice this year.—Associated Press.

Christmas Holidays

Owing to the Christmas holidays there will be no publication of the China Mail tomorrow or on Wednesday.

The China Mail will resume publication on Thursday, when an early edition will be on the streets.

The South China Morning Post will not be issued on Wednesday or Thursday. Publication of the Morning Post will be resumed on Friday.

TWO KILLED ON SHIP

Flushing, Dec. 23.

The heavily damaged US freighter Edison Mariner, smashed up in a collision on Friday night with the British steamer Kittiwake, was towed into Flushing harbour today with two dead men on board.

The body of 34-year-old fireman Henry S. Charles was brought ashore here but the body of the other victim, Third Assistant Engineer Albert J. Davis, 28, was in the flooded engine room. Divers will try to recover it.

The collision occurred in the crowded estuary of the Dutch-Belgian border during a fog.—Associated Press.

STOP PRESS

PLANE CRASHES

Milan, Dec. 23. An Italian airliner, groping its way, crashed while landing at Malpensa Airport in dense fog here tonight.

First reports said that many passengers were injured but none were killed. The plane, which flew on the Rome-New York line, was wrecked.—Reuter.

COMMENT OF THE DAY

The Christmas Message

WHEN a leading man of public affairs said recently, "Have you noticed how at every Christmastide since the war, the international outlook has appeared to be at its darkest?" We had to admit that we had some such recollection. But when he went on to say that such a realisation seemed to make a mockery of Christmas and to make it all the harder to keep in spirit as well as in fact, we felt bound to demur. Experience has shown that the coming of Christmas in the midst of periods when men's hearts were failing them for fear has been all the more reason for welcoming Christmas. So it is again this Christmas. War still stalks the earth, and the fear of the greatest of all wars paralyses the hearts and minds of millions. No amount of steeling ourselves with stoic courage; no attempt to cheer ourselves with the thought that it may not happen; no indulgence in the mood of "Let us eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die" is of any real avail in the face of the facts as they are. Nor, for that matter, is there any assurance in the pious hope that God will not let it happen. As Lincoln once wrote, in calling the American nation to a day of prayer in 1862: "The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise to the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew. We must disenthrall ourselves, and then we shall save our country." It is to disenthrall us from the world that Christmas comes, and there can be no doubt of its power to do so. For it tells of how the heavens opened and of how they rang with a song of overpowering peace and joy. That the message of that song contained an implied judgment

that peace could not belong to those who were not of goodwill hardly calls for comment. When offered the positive, it is foolishness to spend time thinking about the negative. As it has been affirmed, an enormous part of the power of the Christian religion consists in its power to regenerate joy in the human heart. To quote Dr. Lynn Hough in this respect: "The particular quality of this joy lies in the fact that it is morally sound. There is all the difference in the world between joy about a Saviour and joy without a Saviour. The angels sang of a joy which was based upon moral transformation. Most of the cynicism of the world is the aftermath of counterfeit joys." Christmas, indeed, is no exception in this respect. A great deal of the world's esteem for Christmas arises from just this very fact. Is it any wonder that the day after Christmas Day is a day of such boredom and ill-temper for so many? The joys of mere fleshly indulgence are counterfeit joys indeed; they are no necessary part of the joy of Christmas. Christmas perhaps might be other than it is for many of us; if we did but cultivate true joy on the other days of the year. And it can be done. It is too much to hope perhaps that we ourselves can do very much to change the frown of our modern world into a smile of joy. But we can certainly change our own outlook upon the world; we can certainly bring peace and joy into our own family circle. What, therefore, was given to us at the first Christmas, so let us give to all whom we can. World events will never appear to mock the message of the angels if we do but usher in Christmas, 1951, in this way.

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A world of wonders in
ONE GREAT PICTUREas only wonder-worker
Walt Disney could bring it to
the screen. Fascinating
funny, wild, strange, adventures
Mod-cap merriment! Gay songs!

Walt Disney's

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Starring GEORGE MONTGOMERY - GALE STORM with JEROME COURTNEY - NOAH BEERY, JR.
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1952 to all shareholders,
exhibitors and friends.INTERNATIONAL FILMS LTD.
107 HOLLAND HOUSE

This Santa Is On The Telephone

Berlin, Dec. 23.
The ideal Father Christ-
mas in West Berlin ought to
speak several languages and
be something of a quick-
change artist.German children expect their
Santa Claus when they call
Westmichelsmännchen to appear in
a long red overcoat with snowy
flakes, a red hood and a white
beard.French, British and American
families here expect Father
Christmas just as much as Ger-
man families.Most of the telephone inter-
views with Father Christmas
last night were in German, who
spoke in a friendly, drawling
voice and with a touch of each
language when asked to change.Children were asked for their
names and addresses. Those
who were not called for their
names were told to wait.Their busiest day will be
Christmas Eve when 200,000
children are expected to call.
The German and American families
are the most numerous.The German and American families
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PERFORMS FOR CHARITY

Actress Janet Leigh doing her song and dance
number at the Midnight Matinee in London in aid
of the National Playing Fields Association. The
Duke of Edinburgh is President of the Association.

Japanese Appeal For Credits To Speed Recovery

Tokyo, Dec. 23.

Japan needs foreign investments badly but its
industry is not yet sound enough to attract private
capital from abroad, according to the president of
a leading commercial bank here.Sanwa Bank president Tadao
Watanabe, speaking, therefore
for credits from international
credit institutions and short-
term loans to speed Japan's
economic recovery and make its
industries a more attractive
target for long-term investments.Writing in the monthly Japan
Trusts and Trade Banker
pointed out the first requisite to
make Japan an attractive invest-
ment was that its industries
"have a higher economic poten-
tial than those of the United
States."He said Japan must build up
its exports, not to its industry
and to the labor problems.
He emphasized that priority
in the fortifying process must
be given to the electric power,
coal and iron and steel in-
dustries.

EXTREMELY

But he added that foreign
technical assistance would be
extremely welcome in Japan's
important synthetic fibre and
chemical industries, trying to
catch up with the world for the
years it lost during World
War II.He admitted: "No conditions
have been made ready as yet in
Japan for the acceptance of
direct civilian investments."But he pointed out Japan
was making an all-out effort

Steel Walk-Out Predicted

Washington, Dec. 23.
The CIO Steelworkers Union
probably will reject President
Truman's appeal not to strike
on New Year's Day, Govern-
ment and Union officials
predicted today. If so, the
President may invoke the Taft-
Hartley law to prevent the
threatened walk-out, which
would cost the United States
2,000,000 tons of critically-
needed steel weekly.A Union official said the CIO
president, Philip Murray, would
reply on Monday to Mr. Tru-
man's no-strike plea to 650,000
steel workers.—United Press.

Dramatic Story Of Gen. Dean's Adventures In Escape Bid

Panmunjom, Dec. 23.

The dramatic story of the 52-year-old Ameri-
can Major-General William F. Dean, from the day
he was reported missing in July last year until he
was captured by Communist troops a month later,
was told to Western newspapermen by the Com-
munist newspaper correspondent, Wilfred Bur-
chett, at the Panmunjom Press Club today.Burchett, who was able to interview the cap-
tive General near Pyongyang two days ago, gave
a detailed 90-minute account of General Dean's
adventures.According to Burchett, General
Dean had been captured by Com-
munist troops on August 25, 1950, he looked
like General Dean had not a
single ounce of flesh left.
He did not think that it
would be possible to live on
after 20 days of complete star-
vation.The reason why General Dean
had not used his pistol when
captured was that he was sick
and had been practically un-
conscious for the last three
days.General Dean told Burchett
how he had fought Communist
troops surrounding a farm
house where he had taken
refuge with his aide-de-camp
after the dispersal of his com-
pany in the Taegye area.After escaping from his farm
house at night, General Dean
lost sight of his aide-de-camp
and tried to march south in
the hope of reaching American
lines.In fact, the American
General wandered aimlessly
through flooded paddy fields,
woods and fields, constantly
eluded to the west by Com-
munist forces.

PEASANTS HELPED

He had been eventually
assisted by peasants who had
mistaken him for a Russian and
had given him food which he
could not assimilate.General Dean had to escape
again when he realized that the
peasants had discovered his re-
fuge.He could remember living on
armed persons from the bank of
a river.
He thought he had been hit
in the head.During his 30-day adventures,
General Dean, who had to eat
green apples from trees, had
been alternately assisted and
betrayed by Korean peasants.

TWELFTH BULLET

Every day he cleaned his
pistol and the 12 rounds of
ammunition which he still
possessed. He was determined to
shoot himself with the 12th
bullet.After his capture, he was
taken towards the north with
the greatest care.
Every time a plane passed
overhead, his guards would
take him to a ditch along the
road.Burchett declared that when
he called on General Dean in his
room in a concrete shelter near
Pyongyang, the General was
wearing a double-breasted grey
lounge suit.He was in good health and
had just finished a game of
chess with one of his warders.

OF OLD SCHOOL

Burchett said that General
Dean was a "soldier of the old
school." Burchett who worked
for the London Times and the
Daily Express before working for
Communist papers, concluded
the account of his interview with
General Dean by reading the
text of a letter addressed by
the American General to the
Communist Commander-in-
Chief, General Nam Il.In the letter, General Dean
extended his thanks for good
treatment accorded to him.
No formal Press conference
had been summoned by Burchett
for the purpose of making this
account.He actually spoke at a Christ-
mas party to which Communist
correspondents had invited their
Western colleagues.The party was held at the
Press Club installed in one of
the four war-torn houses which
are the only remnants of the
village of Panmunjom.

Air Crash Dead Taken To Teheran

Teheran, Dec. 23.

The bodies of 20 people, in-
cluding Dr. Henry Bennett, 63-
year-old director of the United
States "Point Four" programme
for under-developed areas, were
brought to Teheran Morgue to-
night following a plane crash
outside the capital last night.The crash happened after the
aircraft had twice circled
Mehrabad Airport in an attempt
to land in bad weather. It was
on a weekly Cairo-Baghdad-
Teheran air service.The victims included five
crew members and 15 passen-
gers. All were burned beyond
recognition.It was at first believed that
there were 17 passengers, in-
cluding Dr. Bennett's wife, but
Baghdad Airport reported later
that Mrs. Bennett and a Mr.
Hollingsworth were not on the
plane.The Egyptian Air Lines
said that the aircraft was one
of the new French-made four-
engine planes received last
month. It could carry 46
passengers. The crew of five
were all Egyptians.—Reuter.

Hungarian Reply To The BBC

Budapest, Dec. 23.

The Hungarian Communist
newspaper, Szabad Nep, said
today that Hungarian miners,
by producing a record output,
had themselves answered a
challenge by the British Broad-
casting Corporation to deny
reports that 30 Hungarian
miners had been massacred.The BBC, in its Hungarian
transmissions nine days ago,
reported that 30 miners had
been shot in a coal mine at
Tata as a warning against go-
slow tactics.Then last Friday the BBC
repeated the broadcast and
challenged Hungary to deny
the story.In an editorial today, the
Szabad Nep said that Hungarian
miners' answer to the "per-
fidious provocation" of the
British Press was a production re-
cord of 6,900 tons of coal in one
day on December 21, the 72nd
birthday of Marshal Stalin.—
Reuter.

British Yards Well Ahead

New York, Dec. 23.

British shipyards are
building about half the
world's tankers now on
order, according to a report
published here today.The report, prepared by
the Statistical Research
Division of the Sun Oil
Company, showed that the
United States lagged well
behind with less than a
tenth of the tanker con-
struction business.West Germany was turn-
ing out about the same
volume of tonnage as the
United States.
Sweden and the Nether-
lands were ahead of both
these countries but well
behind Britain.—Reuter.

GREAT DAY FOR ARABS IN LIBYA

Benghazi, Dec. 23.

One million Libyan Arabs in
holiday mood are tonight await-
ing the dawn of their nation's
independence tomorrow when
the new sovereign Libya comes
into being.Benghazi, former bastion of
Mussolini's North African Em-
pire, is a city of feasting and
revelry with the State's new flag
— saffron green and black inlaid
— fluttering everywhere.Britain has administered
Cyrenaica and Tripolitania.
France has administered the
third province, The Fezzan.The transfer of power to a
Libyan government follows re-
solutions passed by the United
Nations Assembly.The new King of Libya, 63-
year-old Emir Sayed Idris of
Senussi, will proclaim indepen-
dence in a broadcast from here
tomorrow.Libya's strategic bases, the
value of which was demonstrated
in the last war, will be the sub-
ject of a mutual defence alliance
between the new State and
Britain when a Libyan Govern-
ment is appointed following
general elections next Spring.
This will provide for the con-
tinued stationing of British
troops and airmen.—Reuter.

Be Worthy Of Wife, Says Judge

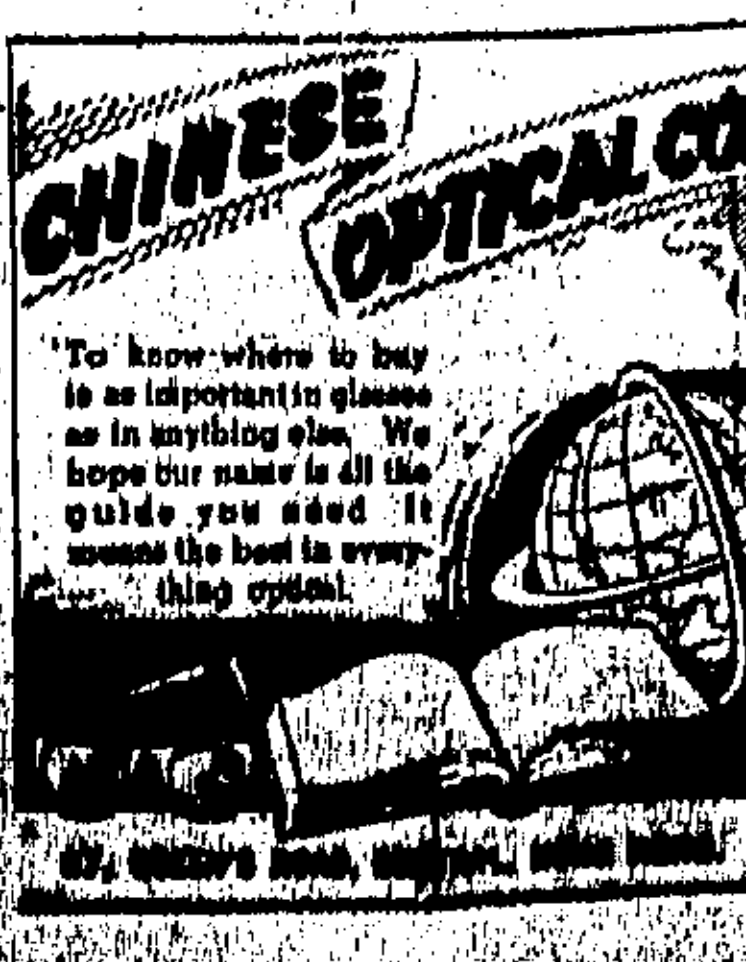
London, Dec. 23.

Fifteen-year-old Lesta Ann
Hurley, who "used make-up
and would pass for 20," was
stated at Leaves Assizes to
have chased a 30-year-old man
and to have behaved "in a
thoroughly sophisticated man-
ner" towards him.Douglas William Arnold,
pleasure-boat proprietor, of
North Bersted, Bognor Regis,
Sussex, was discharged con-
ditionally for 12 months after
pleading guilty to two offences
against the girl. Her address
was not disclosed.Mr. Anthony Harmsworth,
prosecuting, said that Hurley
met Arnold at Victoria Station,
London, with another girl from
her school at Dorking.Three single rooms were
booked at a London hotel, but
Hurley spent three nights with
Arnold.Arnold had said he thought
she was over 16. Mr. Harms-
worth said that Hurley had
stated she was 18, and that if
she did not exaggerate her age
Arnold would show no interest
in her.Mr. Justice Finemore said
that he accepted that Hurley
might have been taken for 20,
and told Arnold: "I have seen
two letters from your wife."They do considerable credit
to her and I hope you are going
to show you are worthy of
them. Here is an opportunity
for you and your wife to build
up your home properly."

POP



School daze



POPE TO DELIVER CHRISTMAS EVE RADIO ADDRESS Broadcast To World

Vatican City, Dec. 23.

Pope Pius XII will spend Christmas Day completely withdrawn in his austere apartments on the top floor of the rambling Vatican Palace, but he will be in contact with more people than any other person on earth.

Tomorrow morning he will make his 13th Christmas Eve radio address to the world and at night he will celebrate a special radio Midnight Mass—the first of its kind—to be relayed over Europe and the Americas.

On Christmas Day, the Pope will celebrate the Christmas Mass in the Sistine Chapel, the most beautiful of the Vatican's churches, and will then spend the day in his apartments.

He will be in contact with more people than any other person on earth.

General's Life Term Commuted

On Christmas Day, the Pope will celebrate the Christmas Mass in the Sistine Chapel, the most beautiful of the Vatican's churches, and will then spend the day in his apartments.

He will be in contact with more people than any other person on earth.

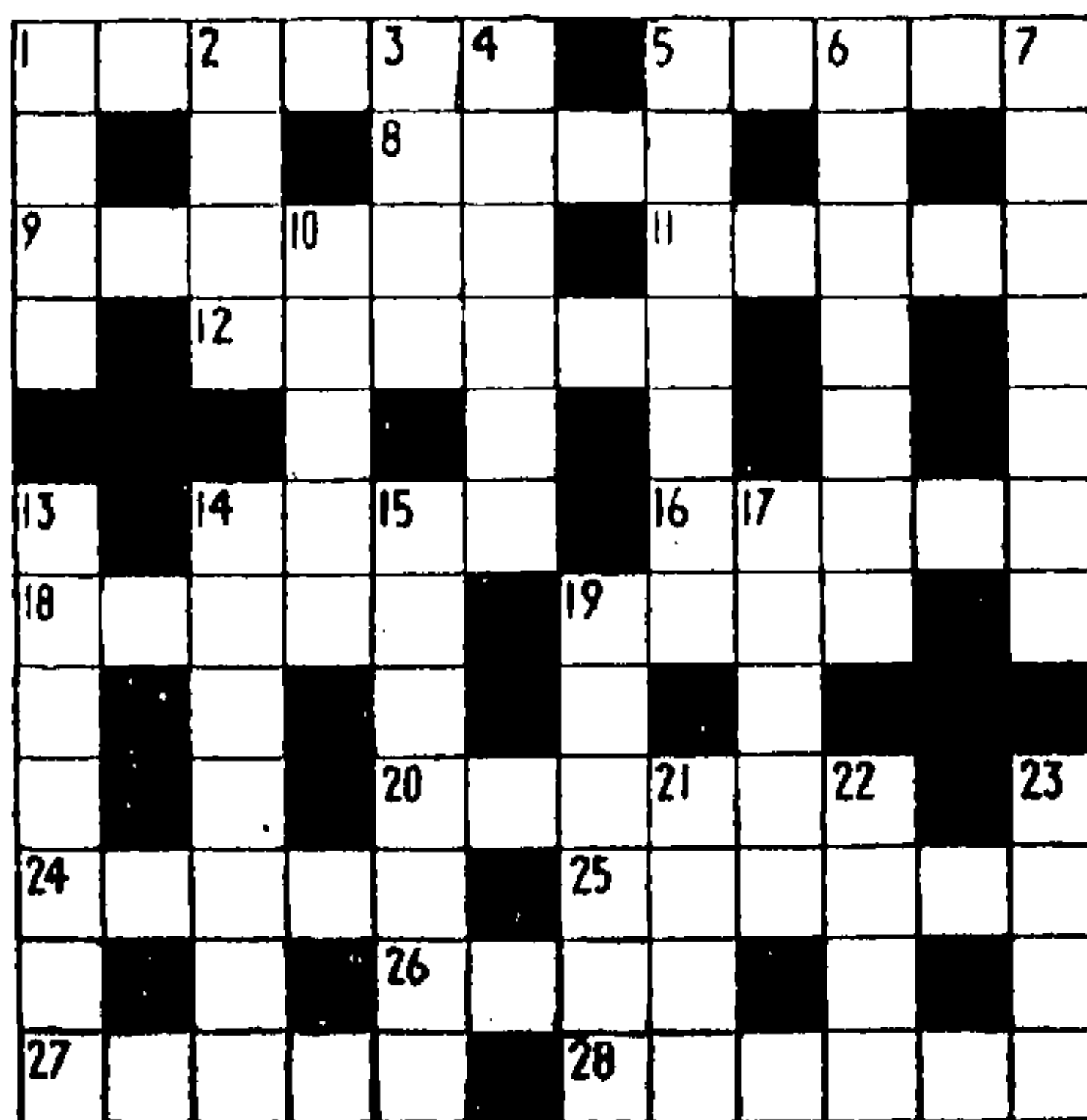
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A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- Tree (6).
 - Dancing shoes (5).
 - Tool (4).
 - Fruit (6).
 - Composition for nine instruments (6).
 - Motive (6).
 - Expression (4).
 - Loop (5).
 - Harder (5).
 - Top-liner (4).
 - Source (6).
 - Governor (5).
 - Talk ill (6).
 - Colour-lechician (4).
 - Blitz (6).
 - Forge (6).
- DOWN**
- Minute passage (4).
 - Couple (4).
 - Song (4).
 - Price for release (6).
 - Flag (7).
 - Perfect (7).
 - Fixed (7).
 - Cut apart (5).
 - Amuses (7).
 - Acrobat (7).
 - Registars (7).
 - Fertile spot in desert (5).
 - Sleeper (6).
 - Microbe (4).
 - Nearest (4).
 - Remain (4).

SATURDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1. Airing, 4. Adorn, 7. Tested, 8. Event, 10. Told, 12. Citadel, 15. Venom, 16. Tire, 17. Deep, 19. Viper, 20. Ensured, 21. Sole, 22. Rigid, 23. Carton, 25. Inter, 26. Child, Down: 1. Attitude, 2. Revolves, 3. Need, 4. Deviates, 5. Tender, 6. Timid, 11. Deplumes, 14. Cove, 18. Directed, 19. Lessened, 24. Ensign, 25. Lave.

War Heroine Goes Shopping



Mrs. Odette Churchill, famous for her exploits as a British agent in France during the war, shown doing some Christmas shopping in London. After looking at table linen she inquired about nylons—something of a problem in her home, for her three daughters take the same size as she does.

Christians At A Jewish Festival

Berlin, Dec. 23. Many Christians attended a Christmas ceremony at the temple ceremony at a synagogue in the British sector tonight. They had been invited by Rabbi Peter Levinson.

Rabbi Levinson said in his sermon that his efforts for Christian-Jewish cooperation had found no echo with the Government authorities. He said he had found a partly anti-Semitic attitude in some authorities. "Such an attitude once led the German people into the abyss," he said.

RUSSIAN GESTURE IN ITALY

Genoa, Dec. 23. Italian Communist leaders today welcomed a gesture from the Soviet Union to the flood victims of Northern Italy.

The gift 500 million lire worth of flour, sugar, wheat, semolina, condensed milk and farm tractors, and also 40 million lire in Italian banknotes, arrived here on the Russian ship Tamara, which was escorted by a British ship, the Italian trade union, women's associations and co-operatives.

As the ship docked, representatives of Italy's two-million strong Italian Communist Party went on board, led by Luigi Giuseppe di Vittorio, chief of the Communist-led Italian General Confederation of Labour.

There were no official Italian Government representatives present.

The Russian representatives ceremonially handed over the gift at a ceremony in the giant Ducal Palace of Genoa, where ceremonial manuscripts, bearing messages of friendship, decorated with symbols of peace, were given to the Italian delegation.

Three secrets in one watch

The Oyster case for perfect protection, the Perpetual Rotor for infallible self-winding, the automatic calendar—these three add up to the Rolex Datejust, the watch of the future that's on sale today.



ROLEX
OYSTER PERPETUAL
DATEJUST

Collective Farm Movement Lags In Yugoslavia

Belgrade, Dec. 23.

The Yugoslav Communist drive to collectivise agriculture as the surest means of increasing food supplies for the growing industrial population is making slow progress.

Marshal Tito himself admitted as much in a recent speech in which he said that "in certain places the co-operative movement has begun to quake."

To talk of active peasant resistance to the regime may not be justified, although there have been some isolated but not denied reports of this.

But there is evidence of low morale among co-operative members and a disposition to go slow.

Marshall Tito said that dissatisfaction with collectivisation which now embraces about 22 per cent of all peasant households was of a local nature, Marshal Tito said that among the reasons for this were:

1. Last year's disastrous drought, which hit the co-operatives as much as it did the private peasant.

2. Local authorities had in some places been over-zealous in pushing the peasants before they are ready for it into the most advanced form of co-operative farm, in which land and livestock are owned in common.

3. BAD MANAGEMENT. The local authorities, being unaccustomed to co-operative management, were still in the process of learning the ropes.

But there is also dissatisfaction among co-operative peasants who are young and well-to-do. They are not keen on the co-operative movement, which they regard as a kind of "forced labour."

Whatever the truth and some informed Western observers here believe that a satisfaction is more essential and ethical than the Government's determination to press on with collectivisation.

Marshal Tito has declared: "The co-operatives are vital to our Socialist country. We have decided to help them by technical means and make it impossible for our enemies to break them up."

The one change in policy is, Marshal Tito indicated, that the Government will not press for new co-operatives to be formed until agricultural machinery is available to ensure their success.

Though an unspecified number of peasants in various parts

of the country have been able to exercise their statutory right to leave the co-operatives, with their land but without livestock after three years, it is clear that the authorities are doing all they can to stop the rot.

On the negative side, they are applying psychological pressure and covert threats against the wayward. Those who apply to leave are made to appear as traitors and enemies of the people.

If necessary, Article 240 of the new penal code can be broadly interpreted and applied. This renders a person found guilty of "causing the disruption of a co-operative" liable to a sentence of up to 15 years imprisonment.

NOT OWN BOSS. In fact, newspapers have frequently reported that co-operative peasants have been imprisoned for two or three years under this Article when they have done little more than express pessimistic opinions about the future of one or led discussions about leaving it.

Peasants who handle the applications to leave are also immune from these charges. A peasant from Banat stated tonight that all the members of his co-operative wanted to leave but dared not. None of the promised improvements have materialised and the work was just as hard as with the private peasant but less popular of its regularity.

"A man can no longer take a day off when he feels like it. He is no longer his master," he added. Cultivation was poor "because the co-operative members have not got their hearts in the job."

Similar sentiments were expressed by many other peasants questioned at random. Reuters.

Boy 'Dared' By Girls To Sit On Line

London, Dec. 23. An 11-year-old boy, taking a "dare" from three little girls, sat on a railway track in the path of a train approaching him at 56 miles an hour.

At Swindon the boy was fined 15s. and put on probation for a year.

"You must learn not to show off in front of girls," the chairman, Mr. E. A. Merricks, told him.

The train driver, Mr. Edward Johns, of Didcot, Berks, said he was approaching Swindon when he saw the boy sitting on the right hand rail.

"My fireman blew the whistle and the boy looked up and grinned at us," he said. "The train was almost on top of him. The fireman staggered across the cab holding his stomach—he thought we had hit the boy."

KOWLOON CRICKET CLUB

PRESENTS

A CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

BOXING DAY, 26th Dec. at 9 p.m.
Thursday, (Matinee) 27th Dec. at 6 p.m.
Friday, 28th Dec. at 9 p.m.

TICKETS

Boxing Day & Friday \$4.70 & \$2.40 incl. tax.
Thursday (Matinee) \$3.50 & \$1.20 incl. tax.

BOOKING Kowloon Cricket Club, Cox's Road Tel. 57017
E. C. Finch, 11 Salisbury Road Tel. 58818

QUEEN'S

5 SHOWS TO-MORROW

"SHOW BOAT"

Extra Performance at 11.30 A.M.

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.

All New 1951 Production!!



KATHRYN GRAYSON-AVA GARDNER-HOWARD KEEL
JOE E. BROWN-MARGE and GOWER CHAMBERLAIN

ALHAMBRA

TO-MORROW AT 11.30 A.M. ONLY

John Wayne — Vera Ralston

"D A K O T A"

Prices: \$1.50 & \$1.00



QUEEN'S

WEDNESDAY (Dec. 26th)

AT 11.30 A.M. ONLY

ALL COLOR
CARTOON
PROGRAM

From:
MGM — WB — RKO

AT REDUCED PRICES

ROXY & BROADWAY

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

THE GREAT ADVENTURE OF ALL THE AGES!

GOLDEN HORDE



with GEORGE MACREARY · RICHARD EGAN · PEGGIE CASTLE

Screenplay by GEORGE FRANKS · Directed by GEORGE SEYMOUR · Produced by HENRIK CHRISTIE and ROBERT ARTHUR

A UNIVERSAL INTERNATIONAL PRODUCTION

NO COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS AVAILABLE

BROADWAY: To-morrow Morning Show At 12.00 Noon

RKO Radio presents Walt Disney's
TECHNICOLOR CARTOONS

At Reduced Prices.

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

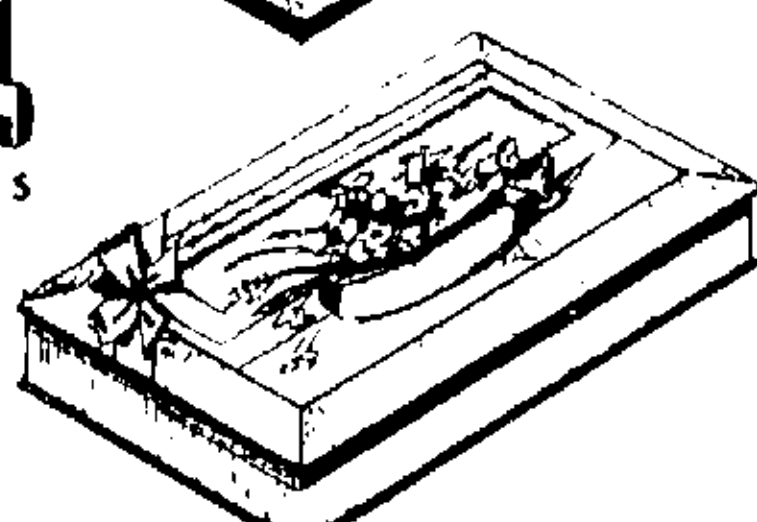
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HEROIC ADVENTURES! JEALOUS INTRIGUE!



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SOLE AGENTS: GILMAN'S

GRANT

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SPLENDID XMAS GIFTS



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new yearA. S. **WATSON & CO., LTD.**
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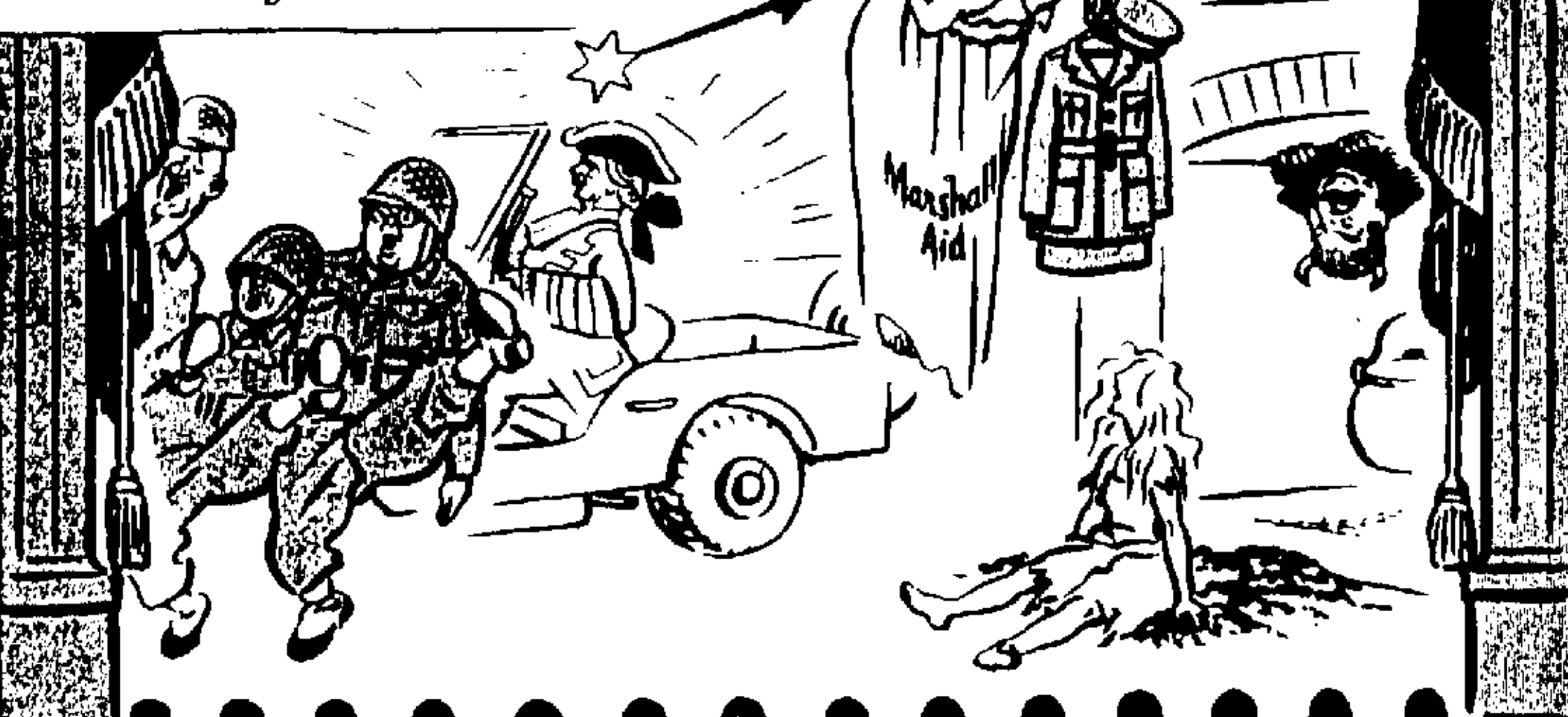
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- PHOTO POCKETS
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at South China Morning Post, Ltd.
HONGKONG & KOWLOON

SCENE 2—CINDERELLA'S GLASS COACH

THIRTY GODMOTHERS!
FEAR NOT, CINDERELLA, NAUGHT CAN BEFALL
ANY FRIEND OF MINE THAT GOES TO THE BALL.
DEMON KING: Shucks! We'll see about that!
Blooming imperialist warmongering cat!

CHORUS OF UNITED EUROPE:
WHO'S AFRAID OF THE BIG BAD JOE.
BIG BAD JOE, BIG BAD JOE.
Leading: My Winston lies under the Ocean
O bring back my Winston to me



LOW'S CHRISTMAS PANTO

THE REALITIES OF
RUSSIAN POWER

FIRST ARTICLE

HOW STRONG IS
THE RED ARMY?By Lieut-General
SIR BRIAN HORROCKS

General Horrocks's article is the first of a series specially commissioned to give readers of the China Mail a true picture of Russian military might. Each is by an expert student of Soviet affairs. On Thursday, Richard Chancellor—the pseudonym of an outstanding naval authority—describes Russian sea power.

AFTER the Germans capitulated in the spring of 1945 I happened to be commanding a corps which occupied the most easterly sector of Western Germany, next door to the Russians, and I attended many conferences with their corps and divisional commanders. I also saw something of the Russian army itself.

The impressions gained at that time have since been confirmed by the various scraps of information which have crept through the cracks in the Iron Curtain, and it is now possible to form a reasonably accurate estimate of what this Russian army is really like.

The outstanding asset possessed by the countries behind the Iron Curtain is the colossal size of their military forces. The Soviet army alone has a strength now of from two and a half to three million men, and this figure could be increased enormously by calling up trained and partially trained reserves on mobilisation. It will also be backed by large forces provided by the satellite States. Though these troops will not have anything like the fighting value of the Russians themselves, and may well be employed in the first instance on the lines of communication, they will all have been trained on the Russian model.

NO PROBLEMS

THE rulers in the Kremlin have therefore no manpower problem, and any offensive which they decided to launch in the West would be made in strength, designed to overwhelm by mere weight of numbers. It would be wrong, however, to assume that such an operation could be started without any warning—tomorrow, for instance, and that the Western countries would wake up one day to find hostile columns heading for the Channel ports. The Russians could not possibly launch an offensive of this magnitude without reinforcing their troops in Eastern Germany by many additional divisions—mainly of the armoured or motorised variety. Such a large movement of troops could hardly escape notice. Several months' warning of any impending attack is therefore probable.

I talked to many Germans who served for long periods on the Eastern front, and they all told the same story. The Russians always selected the most unexpected place for their main thrust, probably against a flank which was protected by a deep minefield, and therefore regarded as reasonably safe by the German defenders. They simply marched their infantry in mass through the minefields and accepted crippling casualties to the leading troops, which usually consisted of "penal" battalions; then wave after wave of men would be thrown in to the attack until the German position was overrun. The casualties suffered by the Russians in these mass attacks were quite staggering.

I do not believe that fundamentally the Russians are any braver than the troops of the Western countries, but the indoctrination to which the youth of the country has been subjected from an early age has created a fanatical faith in the Russian way of life among the younger men. The young Russians are perfectly prepared to die for their beliefs, just as were the fanatical young S.S. in the German army. The older men are brave because extremely unpleasant things happen in Russia to those who are not. The Soviet armed forces are completely permeated by two vast internal informer systems.

LIFE IS HARD

GENERALLY speaking, the officers are all professional soldiers, while the other ranks are conscripts, and although the period of national service is officially two years, the men usually serve for anything up to four or five years and the N.C.O.s for a year longer. Most of the men come from the country districts, where life is hard and the standard of living is low. Consequently the private soldier is extremely tough, and able to exist on the minimum of food for long periods. This enables the Russians to cut down their administrative tail, and to do without the masses of transport and the welfare and medical services of the more highly civilised Western armies.

With the lessons of the last war fresh in their minds, the rulers in the Kremlin have been building up their main industrial areas farther and farther to the east. So in the event of war in the west the distances from factory to front-line soldier would be enormous. In any other country this would be a source of great weakness, but, owing to lack of mechanisation and also the fact that her soldiers live largely off the country, the requirements of her armies are reduced to a minimum, and consist mainly of ammunition and petrol.

GREAT WEAKNESS

IT is surprising how little space on the railways is required to transport these two commodities, because they are never required together in large quantities. If operations are fluid, little ammunition will be expended; as soon as the front stabilises, the demands for ammunition increase, but reduced quantities of petrol are required. The Russian lines of communication are based more on rail than on road transport, and their engineers are extremely quick both at making permanent way for new lines and at constructing bridges.

The Russian army is certainly a formidable fighting machine, but it has one great weakness which has a profound influence on its tactics. This is the low standard of education and intelligence of all ranks. The ma-

jority of the better educated men remain in industry or serve in the Soviet navy and air force. Even the corps and divisional commanders whom I used to meet were largely uneducated by our standards, and a high proportion of the N.C.O.s and men are quite illiterate. This precludes the use of wireless in any great extent. Moreover, as few of the junior N.C.O.s or men can read a map or write a coherent military message, no mobile operations which are at all complicated can ever be attempted. This accounts for the extreme rigidity of all Russian tactical plans.

Subordinate commanders are allowed very little initiative, and the plan, which is made at a high level, must be strictly adhered to at all costs. This does not matter particularly when everything goes according to the book, but it does mean that Russian commanders are not good at dealing with those unforeseen situations which are always cropping up in war.

The Russian army, then, is still rather like an immense steam-roller, not capable of any intricate manoeuvres, but rolling inexorably on with its millions of brave, tough, ignorant soldiers.

USE OF GROUND

THE Russian infantry division is approximately half the size of the British formation, and is still on a horse basis. The infantry are usually employed to hold positions won by the armoured and motorised armies. The Russian infantry soldiers, being mainly countrymen, have a natural instinct for the use of ground, and they are particularly good at night operations when control is maintained by a system of whistles. When they are committed to the mass attacks which I have already mentioned, they are always given excellent air and artillery support.

In fact during the last war the Russians produced heavier concentrations of artillery and mortar fire than was possible in any other army. They have the highest regard for their gunners, and I believe that this is the only army in the world in which the artillery plan for an attack takes precedence over those of the actual attacking troops—i.e., of the infantry and armoured formations. If the infantry attack succeeds, then the armoured and motorised divisions are pushed through the gap to exploit success. Again, owing to lack of wireless control and the low mental standard of the men, the tanks are used in mass formation. During the last war their crews never even approached the standard of skill of the Panzer divisions, and the Germans always reckoned that, if they were not outnumbered by more than six tanks to one, they stood a very good chance of success.

The situation today as regards tank design is interesting. The heavy cruiser-tanks of the

THEIR FINEST CHRISTMAS
PRESENT—A REAL HOME

By Elisabeth Ann

London. Finished the letter he was writing. Inevitably, as is to be expected at his age, the letter was an almost meaningless scrawl. Equally inevitably, as is the case with most letters children write at this time, his scribbling was to Father Christmas.

Jack, living in an institution, has been something of a problem child. He's never had a toy of his own—he might not get one this year either—and consequently he's developed the

habit of pocketing everything within reach. Lacking home care his habit could well be the foundation of a criminal career. But Jack is not destined to finish his education in a Borstal Institution if the Home Office and the Scottish Office know anything about it.

Homes Sought

NOW the two Government bodies are to put on the cinema screens the story of 20,000 little Jacks—and Jills. For ten minutes, the film "A Family Affair" will tell the story of the unwanted children for whom a home is sought.

Widely, experts advising the two departments, have realised that the finest Christmas present any of the legion of the unwanted could have would be a real home life.

They know, too, that unless Jack gets parents of his own he is likely to figure in the Home Office records as a statistic in the Crime Report for 1960.

Good though the State homes and institutions are, they all lack one common feature—the boisterous ups and downs of family life.

The film is frank propaganda aimed at the small suburban houses in an effort to find people who will, as foster-parents, open the door and take one of the little ones in as one of the family.

One shocking fact will be revealed. Although the Children's Charter came into operation nearly five years ago, the problem of the homeless child is still far from solved.

There are some 86,000 deprived children in Britain today. 56,000 of them are in the care of local authorities and 30,000 in orphanages and homes voluntarily supported.

Of the 56,000 under local authority care nearly 25,000 are now in private foster-homes and 20,000 of the remaining children need foster-parents urgently.

None of them, of course, is actually homeless. They are washed, clothed, and fed. But their care is "by the dozen"—they need desperately a real home life.

Stories of Some

THE film to be shown will tell of some of the children. But behind the script lie many tragic and pathetic vignettes.

There is little Brian. Unhappy at home, his food not always too cleanly served, a father who drank and a mother who did not really care.

Brian left his plate half filled when quite a baby. Father determined to stop such behaviour—his only remedy was the strap. The institution to which Brian was taken is now trying to break him of the habit of hiding any food he does not want under pillows and books.

Loving care with a small family would soon return him to normality.

Helen presents a different picture. Mother specialised in shop-lifting; father also stole and her brother, too, was given to thieving. The time came when all three were in prison and Helen was "in need of care and attention." The Home Office is in a trying very hard to break her of the habit of going to bed with her shoes on, accompanied by all her little belongings. But, you see, Helen has lost things before—now she has lost her parents too.

Pathetic Figure

TEN-YEAR-OLD Michael was a bit of a puzzle at first. The matron of the institution where he lives allows him to cut the grass with a lawnmower, but could not understand why he'd drive deliberately over the girls' dolls and toys. She's found her answer—Michael was ignored and actually deserted after the birth of a scab-brother. He just had no

one to care for him from the age of five.

A truly pathetic figure is little Donald. Father is dead—he was killed in action—and mother, his only relative, is seriously ill in hospital. Mother will stay there for at least three years. And she may never come out.

Donald is exactly the opposite of Michael. Having been loved and cared for by his mother, he was utterly disconsolate at finding himself a mere unit among unwanted children. However much affection foster-parents are prepared to lavish on this little boy, they will have to face the fact that there will be little return for it. He lives for the day when his mother will reclaim him.

Little Mother

LITTLE Sally, now ten, would, on the other hand, really return affection given to her. Her family tragedy came when mother ran away with the next-door neighbour. Moved to a children's reception home, Sally within a few days was a little mother to the dozen little babies there. She would sit for hours crooning to them as they went to sleep. Now in a larger institution Sally seeks a home of her own.

Those are just six cases—there are another 19,994. Not all are problem children, but all miss the little ordinary everyday things—a bedroom shared with only one or two other children; a staircase to scamp up and down, a garden to play in unsupervised by nurses, a few toys to own, and, above all, someone to share the secrets of a little heart can be told.

Suspicious; Fears

THERE is apparently very little difficulty in finding foster-parents for chubby, gurgling babies, though the boys are slower to go than the girls.

It is the children of the in-between ages who are difficult to place. The 12 to 14-year-old boys and girls worry the Home Office most. If they find no roots now they are likely to run riot when they leave the institutions, or they will marry young without having any notion of what family life is like.

This is where the foster-parents' real work begins. It will be up to them to wipe out the distrust, the suspicions, the fears which have been driven deep into the child in its early life.

Most of the old-time bogies of taking a foster-child have today been banished. The overriding fear that having declared willingness to accept a foster-child the new parents will have to take just any one off the queue is ruled out.

The One Snag

TODAY would-be parents simply take a child out to tea. If they do not get on to gether they are at liberty to take out another, and to repeat the experiment until they are satisfied that the child will fit into their home.

Very few foster-parents quibble about the payment rates made for the child. The Home Office revised 1950 fees allow local authorities to spend up to 40s. per child per week. The average payment made to foster-parents, including clothing, is 28s. a week.

The one snag which foster-parents must face is that after having made a child one of the family, it can be reclaimed at any time by the natural parent. That is unalterable.

Against that one snag must be set the hours of joy the child can give to the new parents, and the certain knowledge that, for at least one little boy or girl the word Home will mean something more than a soulless Government institution.



Famous Last Words: "Don't make them go to bed yet. It isn't every day I get to see my grandchildren."

Davis Cup

AUSTRALIANS
FAVoured
TO WIN 3-2

Sydney, Dec. 23. Observers here inclined to day to favour a 3-2 Australian victory when the world's two dominating tennis countries meet in the challenge round for the eighth time on Wednesday.

Jack Crawford, former Wimbledon Champion and many years Australian Davis Cup player, today said: "I tip Australia, to beat the United States 3-2—that's not just wishful thinking or patriotism. It's the result of a careful analysis."

However, most expert predictions have been extremely cautious since nobody will be sure who will play the four singles matches. Frank Sedgman, thus far is the only man assured of a berth—but whether he will play against Ted Schroeder, Tony Trabert or Vic Seixas will not be revealed until Sir Norman Brooks and the US Charge d'Affaires make the draw on Christmas morning.

The American camp is still remaining confident of its chances of regaining the cup. The coach of the US team said, "I am sure that America has every chance of winning all five rubbers, while the worst case is a 2-3 defeat."—United Press.

THE GAMBOLS

SAINTS NOSE OUT PANDAS
TO RETAIN SENIOR
LEAGUE LEADERSHIP

By "GRANDSTAND"

Staging a last inning rally, the Saints nosed out the Pandas 4-3 to retain the current Softball "A" Division League leadership, while the Jaguars kept pace half a game behind when they humbled the Braves 3-1 before a capacity crowd at King's Park yesterday.

In the Junior League, the Pandas exploded Rexes' hopes for the pennant when they turned the tables on the favourites by 7-4 in an inspired game behind James Herrick's brilliant pitching, while Cooper of the Bantams, who hurled a no-hitter for seven frames, faltered in the extra eighth inning and the Bantams suffered a heart-breaking 6-5 noseout to the Aces.

USS Albuquerque, turning out for Uncle Sam's Navy against the Warriors, succumbed 6-0 in a replay of a previously called off game.

SAINTS 4—PANDAS 3
The Saints managed to hang on to the slim lead in the Senior

RESULTS AT
A GLANCE

SENIOR "A" DIVISION		
Jaguars	3	Braves
Saints	4	Pandas
SENIOR "B" DIVISION		
Dodgers	7	Americans
Warriors	6	U. S. Navy
JUNIOR LEAGUE		
Delawares	7	Dragons
Pandas	7	Rexes
Blackhaws	5	Griffins
Aces	6	Bantams
LADIES' LEAGUE		
Wahoos	18	Pon To

J. P. Robinson
Trophy Match
On Wednesday

The second cricket match for the J. P. Robinson Memorial Trophy between the Over 40's and Under 40's of the Kowloon Cricket Club will be played at Cox's Road on Wednesday, December 26, commencing 11 a.m. In the first match, which was played on November 12, the Under 40's defeated the Over 40's by seven wickets.

The following are the teams for Wednesday's match:
Over 40's—J. V. Sellers, J. Britton, A. J. Calley, W. M. Davidson, S. R. Kermani, S. A. Gray, A. Hobson, L. Quincey, N. Hart-Baker, S. Ramehand, F. K. Zimmer, C. J. Stapleton.
Under 40's—P. V. Dodge, W. H. Cowie, P. Donohue, A. Lang, R. E. Lee, J. Lertou, Kenneth, Lee, W. Peppercorn, C. S. Ramage, L. Reed, E. A. Britton.

JUNIOR LEAGUE

The Pandas registered a 7-4 triumph over the Rexes to make it easier for the Pandas who also emerged victorious over the Griffins 5-3. The Rexes and Griffins, who are now practically out of the running, leave the Delawares as the Hawks' only threat to their flag hopes.

The Bantams nearly pulled an upset when they held the Aces to a 3-1 draw after Cooper had tossed hitless ball for seven chapters. In the eighth, the Artillerymen notched up two runs although they spoiled a chance for further scoring when they bunted into a double-play with none away.

The Aces started off with L. Rocha in the extra-inning, who promptly belted out a homer to deep left field, and after they had worked to load the bases on two hits and an error, a single to left field found the tying and winning runs scamper over the plate to rob the Bantams of what would have been another achievement.

LADIES' LEAGUE
The Wahoos trampled over Pon To 18-3 in a full seven innings game, with Wahoo hurler Terry Noronha hand-cuffing the College girls for five stanzas until Lee Yue-mei connected for a two-bagger to spoil the effort.

The Owls collected eight hits, of which Gracie Archer was good for two, while two-base hits were registered by Irene Starky and Lee Yue-mei.

INTERNATIONAL SERIES
The first round of the Men's International Series will be played off on Boxing Day, and the following has been announced as the line-up for Portugal, who will tangle with the Americans at 11.00 a.m.
Junior Remedios, Chappie Remedios, Tony Osmund, Frankie Correa, Spiky Gutierrez, Carl Yvanovich, Doc Gutierrez (Braves); Vic Pedruco, Lionel Sequiera, Stevie Xavier (Jaguars); Alec Braga, Bernard Silva, Eric Remedios (Madcaps); Eddie Loureiro (Blackhaws) and Art Orazio (Saints).

BOXING DAY
PROGRAMME

MEN'S INTERNATIONAL SERIES

11.00 a.m. USA v Portugal (Don Robbins, Bill Doyle, Blimbi Ablong)

1.45 p.m. Great Britain v Pakistan (F. Ewins, Art Orazio, Rene Sequiera)

2.45 p.m. Philippines v China (Hal Winglee, Steven Xavier, Roberto Nunes)

YOUR BIRTHDAY... By STELLA

(Continued from Page 5)
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Remember always that it is ever more blessed to give than to receive. Share your joys.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—If at all possible, attend a family reunion. Visit those whom you have not seen for a long time.
PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—Peace and good will should bless you and yours this Christmas Day. There is much to be grateful for.
ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Telephone, even if you can't visit members of your family from whom you have been separated.
TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Don't stay far from company. Those close and dear to you, give most satisfactory. Make it a family affair.
GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—This Christmas Day may pose a family problem that can be solved only by tact and kindness. Use both.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—Take it in easy. Make this a day to make others happy, especially the children in your family.
LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—This should be one of the really bright days in this fading year's calendar. Make the most of it.
VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Peace and joy can really be yours. Participate in a family gathering, contribute your full share.
LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—Spiritual joys as well as material pleasures should be the ultimate reward of the Christmas tide.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 23)—This is a time when you prove helpful to others. Bring joy to yourself by bringing joy to others.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 24-Dec. 23)—Christmas is a day for children. You can contribute much by doing a little more than your share.

BORN on Christmas Day comes to very few and seems to bring with it a special benediction and a combination of talents which gives you exceptional potentialities. If they are properly developed, you have good judgment, discretion and intuitive foresightedness. Although you may appear high-strung or emotional, you are one who can be depended on in a crisis.
Your range of interests is very wide and you keep yourself well-informed on a multitude of subjects. You have the gift of the written word as well as the spoken word and should be able to make a mark on literature or the lecture platform, or in teaching. You would not, however, be a conformist in the usual sense of the term but will want to do things in your own way. Original and ingenious, you often have "inspirations" that seem to be really inspired. For no matter how they may differ from the conventional conceptions, they usually

prove to be the right methods in the long run for executing your idea.
Your temperament is not a racy, going one and you are susceptible to moods. You are usually either elevated to the heights of extreme joy or in the depths of despair. You are very fond of music and may have some talent in this direction.
Friendship and love mean a great deal to you and your life is strong. Once you give your heart, you give it for life. You women should cultivate a more self-reliance. You are not afraid to make the best possible use of your intellectual gifts. In modern times, brains as well as beauty are greatly admired.
To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—The holiday season may pose some problems that need solving. Co-operate with the family.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Guard your business and financial interests carefully. Better not to trust a stranger today.
PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—A competitor may try another campaign contrary to your best interests. Be prepared to meet it tactfully.
ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Heed your intuitions when trying to solve a perplexing problem today. It can save you a lot of time.
TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Perplexing budget and business problems may need your most careful attention now. Solve them neatly.
GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—An unexpected reward for past favours may come to you, accept a favour graciously at this time.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—The stars indicate a change of plans to line with some unexpected news. Be prepared to adjust.
LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—If your holiday was a little too exhausting, take time out to recover. Do only what you have to do.
VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—A good day to catch up on your letter writing. Be prompt in acknowledging your gifts and cards.
LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—To continue the Christmas spirit into your daily life could be one of the blessings of this entire year.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 23)—If there is a tendency toward disunity in the family, make it a peace-making day.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 24-Dec. 23)—Probably a tidying-up day. There will be a lot of odds and ends to take care of after the holiday.

BORN today, you have tremendous inner force with which to execute any job you may wish to undertake. As an observer of human nature, you are quick to get at the underlying motivation, at the cause and effect or to figure out the snare to a problem that others find very difficult to solve. You prefer to use persuasion of word rather than to start an outright battle to gain a point. But, if the former fails, you have the courage to use the latter.
Interested in the mysterious and the occult, you are probably be deeply intrigued by the Far Eastern philosophies. You have a tenacity of desire and a concentration on objective. This is bound to bring you to success. It may not be an early one, but when it does arrive, it is likely to be long and lasting. You must never depend on others;

everything will have to come from your own efforts.
It is quite possible that you will find that you are growing away from the environment into which you were born. This must not dismay you. For if it does happen, move on into another sphere of activity and broaden your outlook on life. You will discover that you can accomplish things on a large scale.
You have a strong feeling for home and kin, however, and will wish to wed in an early age. If you have none you probably will adopt at least one. You would make a fine, understanding parent.
To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—A minor disappointment may be disturbing, but rise above it with a smile. Don't let it spoil your day.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Don't try to go against the current. Just relax! Best for you to take things as they come.
PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—Good news from a distance can make your day a happy one. Perhaps it is word for which you have been waiting.
ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—If offered some extra work, take it. That added income might come in very handy just now.
TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Relations at a distance may call for your full attention. Use the wire as the eye.
GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—Stick closely to routine. Don't attempt anything new or spectacular. It's just not the day for that.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—You may have a consultation with the boss or with an official in your company. Present your case clearly.
LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—You may find yourself somewhat depressed after the excitement of the past few days.
VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—A new contact creates a familiar routine. If you have an experience, teach you, you can now rest better.
LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—More work than you designed for may be demanded of you. Do it without complaint. It will be rewarding.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 23)—Before you come to the end of the year, you may be optimistic.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 24-Dec. 23)—This can be an emotional day but your best attack upon modernity is good self-control.

JAGUARS 3—BRAVES 1

The Jaguars tasted sweet victory when they dumped their arch rivals, the Braves, further down the League ladder with a 3-1 triumph, to keep within half a game of the leading Saints.

Vic Pedruco hurled a heady game for the winners and fanned three, at the same time yielding only a trio of scattered hits which did not cause damage.
Chappie Remedios for the losers whiffed three and walked four, but despite errorless fielding, a groover was belted out to

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"SOOCHOW"	Bangkok	10 a.m. 26th Dec
"HUNAN"	Tientsin	10 a.m. 27th Dec
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	Noon 29th Dec
"KWEIYANG"	Singapore, Penang & Belawan	10 a.m. 30th Dec
"HUPEH"	Tientsin	10 a.m. 31st Dec
"SZECHUEN"	Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	5 p.m. 3rd Jan
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	Noon 5th Jan
"SHANSHI"	Bangkok	5 p.m. 9th Jan
"PAKHUI"	Singapore	10 a.m. 10th Jan

* Sails from Custodian Wharf

ARRIVALS FROM

"KWEIYANG"	Singapore	25th Dec
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	7 a.m. 27th Dec
"SZECHUEN"	Bangkok	1st Jan
"PAKHUI"	Kobe	5 45th Jan
"YOHOW"	Kobe	9th Jan

A.O. LINE LTD./C.N. CO., LTD., JOINT SERVICE

SAILINGS TO

"TAIPING"	Sydney & Melbourne	Noon 28th Dec
"ANSHUN"	AUCKLAND, WELLINGTON & LYTTELTON VIA JAPAN	17th Jan
"CHANGTE"	Japan	25th Jan

ARRIVALS FROM

"TAIPING"	Kobe	Noon 25th Dec
"CHANGTE"	Australia & Manila	21st Jan

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

Scheduled sailings to Europe via Aden & Port Said

"ASCANIUS"	Dublin & Liverpool	24th Dec
"MYRMIDON"	Liverpool & Glasgow via Manila	7th Jan
"PERSEUS"	Marseille, Liverpool & Glasgow	6th Jan
"ATREUS"	Glasgow, London & Rotterdam via Manila	22nd Jan

Scheduled sailings from Europe

Sails	Sails	Arrives
Liverpool	Rotterdam	Hong Kong
S. "AUTOMEDON"	Sailed	In Port Hong Kong
G. "MYRMIDON"	do	5th Jan
S. "ATREUS"	do	11th Jan
G. "PERSEUS"	Sailed	17th Jan
S. "BELLEROPHON"	18th Dec	22nd Jan
G. "CYCLOPS"	25th Dec	1st Feb
S. "ANTHOCUS"	5th Jan	10th Feb
G. "PELEUS"	12th Jan	17th Feb
S. "AUTOLYCUS"	18th Jan	23rd Feb

G. Loading Glasgow before Liverpool.
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"BATAAN"	In Port Buor A7
"DONA ALICIA"	8th Jan.

Lathay Pacific Airways Ltd.

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HK/Bangkok/Singapore (DC-4)	8:00 a.m. Tues, Fri	8:45 a.m. Wed, Sat
HK/Hankow/Hainan (DC-3)	10:00 a.m. Tues	2:15 p.m. Wed
HK/Malaya/B.N. Borneo (DC-3)	6:30 a.m. Wed	3:45 p.m. Thurs

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ARRIVALS

SHIPS	FROM	DUE
"BENVORLICH"	U.K. via Singapore	In Port
"BENLOMOND"	U.K. via B.N.B.	on or abt. 3rd Jan.
"BENRINNES"	U.K. via Singapore	18th Jan.
"BENVENUE"	U.K. via Singapore	20th Jan.
"BENVORLICH"	Japan	29th Jan.

SAILINGS

SHIPS	TO	DATE
"BENVORLICH"	Kure, Yokohama & Kobe	24th Dec.
"BENLOMOND"	Havre, Liverpool, Glasgow & Avonmouth	0th Jan.
"BENRINNES"	Avonmouth, Havre & London	23rd Jan.
"BENVORLICH"	Direct to Singapore, thence London, Hamburg & Hull	29th Jan.
"BENVENUE"	Direct to Singapore, thence Liverpool, Dublin, Hamburg & Hull	27th Feb.

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of cargo exported from Hong

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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

Consignees per

HARDER WILHELMSEN LINE

M/S "TITANIA"

are hereby notified that their cargo

is being discharged into the Hong

Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown

at 10 a.m. on the 26th December,

1951.

Damaged packages are to be left in

the godowns for examination by

Consular and the Company's survey

agents. Messrs. Goddard & Douglas

at 10 a.m. on the 26th December,

1951.

To comply with the General Bond

of War-houses, Regulations, con

signees must have a Revenue Officer

in attendance when damaged duti

able goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after

the goods have left the steamer's

tackle, and all goods remaining

undischarged after the 27th December,

1951 will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer

must be presented to the Under

signed on or before the 31st January,

1952, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected

DODWELL & CO., LTD.

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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

Consignees per

BENVOIR

are hereby notified that their cargo

is being discharged into the Hong

Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown

at 10 a.m. on the 26th December,

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Ben Line Steamers, Ltd.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1951.

Tax Scandal In U.S. Spreading

Washington, Dec. 23.

The language of the American underworld—"the shakedown," "the fix," "the soft touch"—is darkening the stain of corruption that has already spread through the Truman Government.

After the recent sacking of more than 50 officials, the names of such august members of the Government as Mr. Howard McGrath, Attorney-General, and Mr. Tom Clark, Justice of the Supreme Court, have become involved in the scandals surrounding the Government's income-tax service.

Mr. McGrath is said to have approved the acceptance of \$5,000 commission in an outside "deal" with tax delinquents by the now dismissed chief of income tax prosecutions, Mr. Clark is said to have accepted free plane rides from men whose tax records were under close scrutiny for possible criminal action.

Both are due to testify soon before the Congressional investigation.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

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are hereby notified that their cargo

is being discharged into the Hong

Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown

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No Fire Insurance will be effected

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Agents

Hong Kong, December 22, 1951.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

Consignees per

M/S "PERSEUS"

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BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Agents

Hong Kong, December 22, 1951.

In the meanwhile the most sensational evidence of all has been obtained from a man who was known as "Al Capone's lawyer," Mr. Abraham Teitelbaum, prominent Chicago attorney who represented the gangster many times.

Mr. Teitelbaum, in trouble over taxes himself, charged that he had been approached by high Treasury and Justice Department officials in Washington who were "looking for soft touches." In return for cash commissions they were prepared to "fix" delinquent tax records.

In his case, Mr. Teitelbaum alleged, they attempted a \$500,000 "shakedown"—that was the sum he was told he would have to pay if he wanted to stay out of prison.

Charles Oliphant, chief counsel of the American Bureau of Internal Revenue, and one of the members of an alleged "clique" named by Mr. Teitelbaum, resigned today because "these attacks, vilification, rumor and innuendo are beyond human endurance."

All members of the alleged "clique" mentioned by Mr. Teitelbaum have made immediate and angry denials to the committee.

But as the unsavoury investigation goes on the evidence piles up, and the chances of Mr. Truman and the Democratic Party being re-elected next year are suffering crippling damage.

London, Dec. 23. A shopkeeper who accused his friend of stealing £4 and a pair of gloves was ordered at Manchester Assizes to pay a half-penny damages. His wife, who reported the slander, was ordered to pay a farthing damages. The judge ordered that £20, 19s. 11d. of £21 paid into court, should be returned to the defendant.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



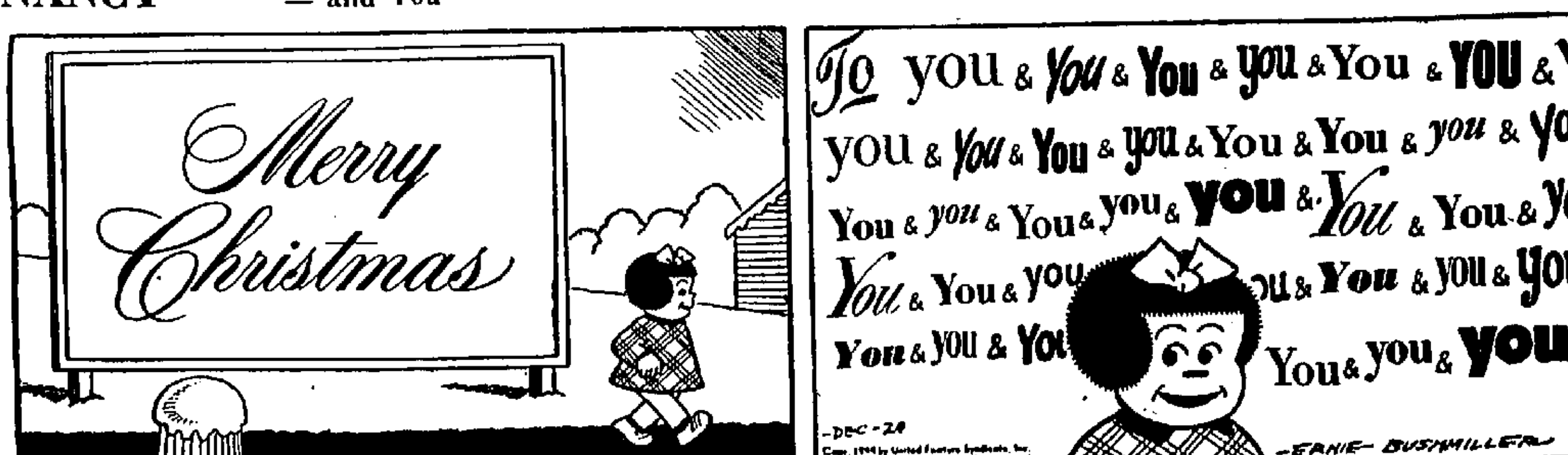
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JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



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Outwards	Leaves London	Arrives Hongkong
"CANTON"	13th December	14th January
"CARTHAGE"	10th January	11th February
"CHUSAN"	22nd January	19th February
"CORFU"	7th February	10th March

Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore

ROYAL INTEROCEAN LINES

SAILINGS	To
"TAIWANG" (TAMAM)	Dec. 24th Singapore, Java & Macassar
"TAIWANG"	Dec. 30th Singapore, Djakarta, Belawan Deli & Penang
"TAIWANG"	Jan. 5th Manila, Singapore, Africa & S. America
"TAIWANG"	Jan. 12th Djakarta, Surabaya, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TAIWANG"	Jan. 19th MAIDEN VOYAGE To Singapore, Java & Macassar
"TAIWANG"	Jan. 26th Japan Ports
"TAIWANG"	Feb. 2nd Singapore, Java & Macassar
"TAIWANG"	Feb. 9th Japan Ports
"TAIWANG"	Feb. 16th Manila, Singapore, Africa & S. America
"TAIWANG"	Feb. 23rd Singapore, Java & Macassar
"TAIWANG"	Feb. 30th Singapore, Java & Macassar
"TAIWANG"	Mar. 6th Manila, Singapore, Africa & S. America
"TAIWANG"	Mar. 13th Singapore, Java & Macassar
ARRIVALS	From
"TAIWANG"	Dec. 24th Singapore, Java Ports & Singapore
"TAIWANG"	Dec. 30th Japan
"TAIWANG"	Jan. 5th B. Deli, Djakarta & Singapore
"TAIWANG"	Jan. 12th S. America, Africa, Singapore & Manila
"TAIWANG"	Jan. 19th Singapore, Java & Macassar
"TAIWANG"	Jan. 26th S. America, Africa, Singapore & Manila

General Agents

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SAILINGS TO EUROPE

"AMSTERDAM"	Jan. 13th
"AMSTERDAM"	Jan. 20th
"AMSTERDAM"	Jan. 27th
"AMSTERDAM"	Feb. 3rd
"AMSTERDAM"	Feb. 10th

SAILINGS FROM EUROPE

Sails	Rotterdam	Amsterdam
"AMSTERDAM"	Dec. 14th	Jan. 1st
"AMSTERDAM"	Dec. 21st	Jan. 8th
"AMSTERDAM"	Dec. 28th	Jan. 15th
"AMSTERDAM"	Jan. 4th	Jan. 22nd

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US Tin Stockpile Could Be Used To Lower Prices

London, Dec. 23.

The danger of Americans using their tin stockpile as a price-lowering weapon is alarming more than tin interests.

Strong comment on the possibility comes in the current issue of Natural Rubber News (published in Washington by the Natural Rubber Bureau).

Israel Fuel Corporation

Tel-Aviv, Dec. 22.—The creation of an Israel Fuel Corporation Ltd. was officially announced tonight.

A Government communiqué said that the new company, in which the Government holds 50 per cent, would be concerned with all activities connected with the oil industry, including refining. The Government stressed that Israel has no oil reserves and that the fuel corporation would be concerned with the saving of large amounts of foreign currency spent for the purchase of oil products.

Stock Exchange In NY

New York, Dec. 22.—Prices declined irregularly on the stock exchange in a very dull Saturday session. All departments joined a mixed decline.

Steels held around the previous close. Automobiles and electricals were very dull and practically unchanged. Utilities were almost unchanged. Industrials and utilities were very dull. Stocks sales totalled 450,000 shares.

Dow Jones averages at the end of the session stood as follows:

30 industrials	250.04
20 rails	82.00
15 utilities	46.07
40 bonds	100.03

—United Press.

Rubber In Singapore

Singapore, Dec. 22.—Prices of rubber futures closed today as follows:

Number 1 rubber, per lb.	140 1/2
January (1952)	138 1/2
February	136 1/2
March	134 1/2
April	132 1/2
May	130 1/2
June	128 1/2
July	126 1/2
August	124 1/2
September	122 1/2
October	120 1/2
November	118 1/2
December	116 1/2
Black crepe	114 1/2
No. 1 pale crepe	112 1/2

—United Press.

STERLING AREA'S FUTURE
Critical Task Confronting The Empire

Drastic Action Required To Solve Financial Crisis

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Dec. 23.

A critical task awaits the Commonwealth Finance Ministers who are due to meet here next month for a full-dress review of the present economic situation as it affects the Sterling Area.

The gravity of the situation itself is well-known. Mr R. A. Butler, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has summed it up thus: "The whole Sterling Area is in deficit all round the world... all foreign currencies are, alas, now hard."

It is clear, therefore, that the crisis cannot be dealt with as it was two years ago by the simple expedient of cutting dollar imports. More drastic action will be needed but if it is to achieve its purpose it must be taken by the Sterling Area as a whole and not by individual member countries.

This raises an immediate question. Is the whole-hearted co-operation of all member countries likely to be forthcoming to the degree necessary if we are to surmount our present difficulties? The answer, unfortunately, would seem to be "no."

Several members of the bloc are likely to express grave doubts about the present constitution of the Sterling Area.

Mr. J. A. G. Rees, Finance Minister of Ceylon, has intimated that "the whole question of the rules and conventions of the Sterling Area with particular reference to the dollar-earning countries and their contribution to the dollar pool" will be reviewed by the Commonwealth Ministers.

Ceylon, however, is not the only member to question the value to herself of full participation in the Sterling Area. Pakistan has also indicated dissatisfaction with the present arrangements.

A report from a usually well-informed source in Karachi says Pakistan may even go so far as to call for the winding up of the Sterling Area. Pakistan apparently feels that certain members of the bloc are "living beyond their means" so far as dollars are concerned.

Pakistan, it seems, would prefer to trade direct with the dollar area and use the proceeds for her own development schemes.

COPLAND THEORY

Australia, too, has been advised to associate herself more closely with the dollar area—by no less a personage than Sir Douglas Copland.

Various arguments have been put forward in opposition to this suggestion, and the Australian Government has officially rejected it. Nevertheless, the suggestion has been made and many thoughtful Australians have supported it.

India is in a somewhat different position. The Sterling Area gold and dollar deficit has raised fears in the Dominion that the United Kingdom will ask member countries to restrict their dollar expenditure.

India has already practised the utmost economy in the use of dollars and feels that further restrictions might have a serious effect on the country's internal economy.

So far from feeling able to make further cuts in dollar expenditure, India may soon be compelled to take the opposite course.

A CLEAR THREAT

Higher food imports from the dollar area, to offset the effects of internal crop failures, the payment of interest on the United States grain loan, the purchase of dollar oil to make good the loss of Persian supplies and the need to import more capital goods from America—these are some of the factors which will tend to increase India's need for dollars.

The Sterling Area, therefore, clearly faces a threat of disintegration. But the danger should not be exaggerated. Commonwealth trade is subject to sharply fluctuating fortunes and views may change as rapidly as the periodic transitions from surplus to deficit.

Expressed by dissentient members of the Sterling Area seem more appropriate to conditions in 1950 than in 1951.

Last year the Commonwealth earned a large surplus in its visible trade with the rest of the world. In 1951 there was an even larger deficit. This year it is again in deficit.

Last year, however, was an exceptionally favourable one for the Commonwealth and for that reason cannot be considered in isolation.

Sterling, primary producing countries benefited from the steep rise in world commodity prices which followed the decision in many Western countries to embark upon a programme of arms production. Imports also rose but less sharply.

The Commonwealth's favourable balance in its trade with the dollar area, moreover, was less due to increased dollar exports than to reductions in imports.

Report On U.S. Rayon Industry

New York, Dec. 23.—The United States rayon industry had a producing capacity of 1,444,000,000 pounds in mid-November, or 10 1/2 per cent more than a year ago.

By October 1953, the capacity is expected to exceed 1,700,000,000 pounds or 18 per cent more than the present capacity, a survey made by the statistical bulletin of the Textile Economic Bureau indicated. Currently, the industry is operating at 81 per cent of the total rayon yarn and staple capacity.

November shipments of rayon by United States producers totalled 84,000,000 pounds, including 84,000,000 to domestic consumers and 800,000 pounds for export compared with 83,000,000 pounds reported for October, or 24 per cent under the 1951 second quarter average of 110,000,000 pounds.

Rayon yarn and staple stocks as of Nov. 30 totalled 95,200,000 pounds, including 84,100,000 pounds of yarn and 11,100,000 pounds of staple stocks.

In its annual review of the wool situation, the bulletin estimated production for the 1951-52 season at 4,100,000,000 pounds. This represented an increase of two per cent over the previous season and the largest output since 1943-44. This season's wool production is expected to be about 10 1/2 per cent higher than the post-war low of 3,710,000,000 pounds in 1947.

United Press

STRONG ARGUMENTS

Moreover, as "The Economist" points out this week, in the United States persists in developing and using synthetic materials, Britain's importance to the Sterling Area as a dollar earner might well increase against any material breakaway from the Sterling Area.

The moral argument is equally strong. This is, in the words of "The Economist," that the Sterling members of the Commonwealth are experiencing quite sizable trade deficits this year which have contributed towards the strain upon Sterling as much as Britain's own trade deficit.

The right conclusion to draw from these various cross-currents of opinion would seem to be that the Sterling Area and the currency upon which it is based can only remain strong if member countries continue to support it in bad years with the same regard for the common interest as they have done in good years.

Grains In Chicago

Chicago, Dec. 22.—An easier undertone prevailed in the grain futures market. Liquidation was reflected in the declining prices with much selling attributed to evening-up for the holidays. The market ignored the adverse weather and prospects of continuing heavy export business.

At the heavy export business, the close, wheat was 1/4 cent lower to 1/2 higher, corn 2/3 to 1 cent lower, oats 1/2 to 1 cent lower, rye unchanged to 1/2 lower, and soybeans unchanged to 2 lower.

Prices closed as follows: WHEAT—price per bushel: Spot (1952) 2.57 nominal, 2.56-1/2, 2.55-1/2, 2.54-1/2, 2.53-1/2, 2.52-1/2, 2.51-1/2, 2.50-1/2, 2.49-1/2, 2.48-1/2, 2.47-1/2, 2.46-1/2, 2.45-1/2, 2.44-1/2, 2.43-1/2, 2.42-1/2, 2.41-1/2, 2.40-1/2, 2.39-1/2, 2.38-1/2, 2.37-1/2, 2.36-1/2, 2.35-1/2, 2.34-1/2, 2.33-1/2, 2.32-1/2, 2.31-1/2, 2.30-1/2, 2.29-1/2, 2.28-1/2, 2.27-1/2, 2.26-1/2, 2.25-1/2, 2.24-1/2, 2.23-1/2, 2.22-1/2, 2.21-1/2, 2.20-1/2, 2.19-1/2, 2.18-1/2, 2.17-1/2, 2.16-1/2, 2.15-1/2, 2.14-1/2, 2.13-1/2, 2.12-1/2, 2.11-1/2, 2.10-1/2, 2.09-1/2, 2.08-1/2, 2.07-1/2, 2.06-1/2, 2.05-1/2, 2.04-1/2, 2.03-1/2, 2.02-1/2, 2.01-1/2, 2.00-1/2, 1.99-1/2, 1.98-1/2, 1.97-1/2, 1.96-1/2, 1.95-1/2, 1.94-1/2, 1.93-1/2, 1.92-1/2, 1.91-1/2, 1.90-1/2, 1.89-1/2, 1.88-1/2, 1.87-1/2, 1.86-1/2, 1.85-1/2, 1.84-1/2, 1.83-1/2, 1.82-1/2, 1.81-1/2, 1.80-1/2, 1.79-1/2, 1.78-1/2, 1.77-1/2, 1.76-1/2, 1.75-1/2, 1.74-1/2, 1.73-1/2, 1.72-1/2, 1.71-1/2, 1.70-1/2, 1.69-1/2, 1.68-1/2, 1.67-1/2, 1.66-1/2, 1.65-1/2, 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MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1951.



Mayor Had A Gaff To Catch Salmon

London, Dec. 23. Mayor, magistrate, and grocer, 42-year-old Alderman John Hywell Owen was caught on the bank of the Ystryd salmon river, in North Wales, "with a light and a gaff," and afterwards he asked that proceedings be taken against him.

He did not and he solicitor, Mr. Kerfoot Owen, of Denbigh, County Magistrate, Owen, after a summons, that the mayor was to be indicted on charges of being a poacher.

Alderman Owen, Mayor of Denbigh, appeared before the county court, charged with the offence of poaching salmon in the possession of a light and a gaff in such circumstances that there was reasonable ground for believing that he intended to take salmon by means thereof.

He pleaded guilty, was fined £15 and ordered to pay £10 in costs.

It was stated that at about 11.15 a.m. on November 13, Owen, accompanied by the head of the Denbigh and Clwyd Fisheries Board, saw a light and a gaff on the river bank.

He crossed the river and one of them shone a light on the Alderman Owen.

10-LB SALMON

"He endeavoured to escape, but after some distance was caught by the bailiffs," said Mr. J. W. Lee, prosecuting.

On the river bank was a 10-lb. female salmon containing spawn worth £15 to £20.

The mayor did not give evidence. His solicitor brother, pleaded that the legislation was aimed at the hardened poacher.

Said Mr. Kerfoot Owen: "Here we are dealing with an adventurous escapee of a person who has never eaten or sold a single river salmon in his life. Fourteen or 15 years hard work has been furnished."

There had been fantastic rumours, circulating in an anonymous letter implying that the matter was to be hushed up.

"The mayor wishes to take any punishment which you might impose entirely, fairly and squarely on his own shoulders. Then perhaps peace will be given to him, and to others who have been so wrongly-maligned as living any connection with this affair."

Crew 'Listened' To Herring

London, Dec. 23. George Forman, skipper of the steam drifter Star of Bethlehem, from Peterhead, Scotland, was at Great Yarmouth when he was presented with the Premier Trophy for making the biggest single catch of herring this season.

George and his crew recently caught 300,000 herring in one trip off Great Yarmouth. They used echo-sounding apparatus to locate the fish and in recognition of their feat the captain and crew are to be given one of the latest echo-sounders made by the same factory at Barking. The runner-up was Skipper S. Catchpole, of the drifter Thrift of Lowestoft. He received a £25 prize.

The Premier Trophy, which is in the form of a herring, made of marble from the Isle of Purbeck, Dorset, was given by Madame Simone Prunier to encourage the British herring industry.

Court Like An Eisteddfod

London, Dec. 23. A bustling trumpet in the market place of Par Ydybot, Glam., interrupted the business of Judge O. Temple Morris's County Court.

The same trumpet had delayed a judgment only a month ago, so the judge said: "It is becoming like an Eisteddfod. And he told a bailiff: 'Ask him to go away. Wish him a Merry Christmas from me, and tell him to come back in the New Year.'"

Sister Joins Family With Appendicitis

London, Dec. 23. Four children of a Weymouth, Dorset, family who were operated on for appendicitis, were joined in hospital by their 10-year-old sister, Evelyn Rosemary Woodward.

She was admitted for observation.

Now the only child remaining at home with their mother, Mrs. Evelyn Woodward, 40, of Sydney street, Weymouth, is Noella. She is also suspected of having appendicitis.

The five children in the Weymouth and District Hospital are in one row of beds. They were all making progress.

First of the brothers and sisters to undergo the operation was six-year-old Peggy. She was followed by her twin sister, Jean. Later, Victor, seven and Robert, 12, joined them.

Plymouth Brethren in the George-street Hall, Weymouth, prayed for the family.

Mrs. Woodward said: "The doctors told me they had decided not to operate on Rosemary but to keep her in hospital for the time being. All my children are comfortable, our prayers have been answered."

Doctors regard the cases as quite abnormal.

Wife Slashed In Court By Convict

Robert Blackshaw was listening to his wife giving evidence supporting her petition for divorce when he leaped from his seat and slashed at her with a razor blade embedded in a piece of wood.

Locks of her hair fell on the reporters' table.

Twenty-year-old May Blackshaw, mother of two children, ran screaming from the witness box.

Across the court two of her women friends were scuffling with a third woman who tried to attack Mrs. Blackshaw, saying: "You are to blame for all this."

Judge Harold Rhodes, presiding at Manchester Divorce Court, told two warders who had brought Blackshaw from Strangeways Gaol: "Arrest that man."

The warders and a court usher grabbed him and held him while the judge ordered him to be committed to gaol for contempt.

Rhodes said: "If there is any more noise from you, I will commit you all to prison for contempt."

Mrs. Blackshaw, who is petitioning on the grounds of her husband's alleged cruelty,

Dapper Communist Delegate



Dapperly clad from toe to top, flamboyant holder jutting from his lips, North Korean chief delegate, General Nam Il fastidiously slaps glove against hand as he leaves with a staff officer after a recent truce meeting at Pan Mun Jom.—Reuterphoto.

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Mail Notices

Latest times of posting at G.P.O. and at Kowloon Post Office: registered articles and parcels mails close one hour earlier than the ordinary mail times shown below.

Christmas Arrangements. On Sunday, December 23 and Tuesday, December 25, there will be no general delivery commencing 10 a.m. There will be no delivery on Wednesday, 26. On December 25 and 26 all public offices will be closed.

Monday, December 24th By Air

Japan, 5 p.m. Via B.O.A.C. Formosa, 5 p.m. Via B.O.A.C. Canada, 5 p.m. H.K.A. N.W.A.L. Siam, Burma, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain, Europe, 1.30 a.m. B.O.A.C. Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 5 p.m. C.P.A. Indo-China, 5 p.m. C.P.A. By Surface

Macao, 8 p.m. 8 p.m. S/S Lee Hong-tai Shing, 5 p.m. S/S China, People's Republic, 5 p.m. train via Canton.

Japan, 2 p.m. S/S Automecon.

Christmas Holiday Tuesday, December 25th By Air

Indo-China, France, French North & West Africa, 10 a.m. Via Air France.

Formosa, Japan, 11 a.m. C.A.T. Siam, Burma, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain, Europe, 1.30 a.m. B.O.A.C. Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 5 p.m. C.P.A. East Africa, Great Britain, Europe, 5 p.m. B.O.A.C. N. Borneo, 5 p.m. C.P.A. Philippines, Guam, Hawaii, U.S.A., Canada, 5 p.m. P.A.L. Formosa, 5 p.m. C.A.T. Siam, Burma, India, 5 p.m. P.O.A.S. By Surface

Macao, 5 p.m. S/S Tak Shing. China, People's Republic, 5 p.m. train via Canton.

Indonesia, Noon, S/S Pres. Garfield.

Siam, Noon, S/S Soochow.

Philippines, Noon, S/S Angkor.

Japan, Noon, S/S Oryoku.

Formosa, 5 p.m. S/S Wing Sang.

Christmas Holiday Wednesday, December 26th By Air

U.S.A., Canada, 2 p.m. P.A.L. Japan, Korea, 5 p.m. B.O.A.C. Formosa, 5 p.m. C.A.T. By Surface

Macao, 5 p.m. S/S Tak Shing. China, People's Republic, 5 p.m. train via Canton.

Thursday, December 27th By Air

Siam, Burma, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain, Europe, 1.30 a.m. Via B.O.A.C. Indo-China, 5 p.m. Air France. Siam, Malaya, Indonesia, 5 p.m. C.P.A.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Principal Tenants

Sir—Your leading article of the 20th, instead of the caption "Proposed Rent Increases" appears very unbiased and most reasonable. The situation you depict upon principal tenants falls but a little short of its mark. In fairness to everyone concerned, I feel confident that your publication of this would somehow bring some principal tenants, who are also labouring under difficulty, in so much as our sub-tenants and landlords.

Government forgers the fact that immediately after the war many principal tenants were given dilapidated war damaged houses for which they were told that if they wished to have them they had to pay for the reconstruction themselves. Many houses or flats have cost principal tenants amounts of over HK\$10,000 for reconstruction, and many of these principal tenants had to raise money for this purpose by borrowing at a high monthly rate of interest. It only stands to reason that in such cases the principal tenant would not submit his rooms unless at a higher rate in order to reimburse himself on reconstruction expenses. Take for instance in the case of a sub-tenant, in order to obtain a room, was literary on his knees begging for a temporary short term of tenancy; later on he takes advantage of the fact that if tribunals are fully booked ahead for over eight months, and because of that he carries on in the premises saying he is unable to find alternative accommodation and must carry on with his temporary sub-tenancy. Some principal tenants are reluctant to go to court or to wait eight to ten months for case to be settled, and under the circumstances allow the temporary sub-tenant to linger on. In an instance of this case is when such a temporary sub-tenant is about to leave the premises he raises different excuses of having over-paid and insists compensation for quitting, or else demands that he substitutes someone else in his place who would pay him compensation money for quitting. In the case where he was told that his tenancy was temporary and that he had to pay over and above the actual value of the room because of reconstruction reimbursement, it is a reflection on his character when he has the brazen cheek of making such preposterous demand.

Here is another case where a principal tenant had to leave the Colony for ten months and had made contracts with temporary sub-tenants for ten months and no further. Despite the fact that their contracts stipulate the temporary sub-tenant waive all rights to Landlord Tenants and Sub-tenants Ordinances, that the rooms would have to be returned immediately after the expiration of the contract. The principal tenant notices that the improvements made to the rooms and high expenses incurred, it would appear that these temporary sub-tenants, who although waiving all rights to the privileges of the Ordinances, appear that they also intend to dishonour their contracts and to linger as long as possible, as they are fully aware of the fact that tribunals cases take from eight to ten months to come to effect.

Government while taking into consideration the Landlord's plight as well as that of the sub-tenants must not be so wholly oblivious of the crass humbug the principal tenants suffer from their temporary sub-tenants, and for this matter special judges should sit at night courts, the larger number of the better, order to eliminate the procrastination of the decision and to justify the case; and whether a temporary sub-tenant comes to any hoodlum ideas to victimise his principal tenants by entering under false pretences, it is as well a matter for the attention of the Criminal Investigation Department of the Hongkong Police.

In the case where a temporary sub-tenant takes a room for a specified period and waiving all privileges extended by any Ordinances, it is inferable that while it is time for them to be evicted, no court cases will be necessary.

Your study and comments of this correspondence will, I hope, be appreciated by quite a number of principal tenants.

"QUAD ERAT DEMONSTRATUM"

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London Express Service.

Ghost Raider Hid Jewels After Killing Policeman

London, Dec. 23. A crackman who was never caught as a thief was sentenced to death for killing a police officer. He admitted being a "ghost raider," but denied to the end being a murderer.

Detective Inspector Duncan Alexander Fraser was killed by a revolver-shot as he kept watch at night on Alfred Moore's farm at Kirkheaton, Huddersfield.

Police Constable Arthur Jagger, who was with him on watch, was also shot and died later, but not before the jury was told he identified Moore as the man with the gun.

After the shooting police surrounded Moore's house, where he lived with his wife and four children, ages two to ten.

STAMPS BURNED

In a wall cavity they found the ghost raider's loot—mostly stolen jewellery. There were also 137 keys—skeleton and Yale.

And hidden away in other places, was more loot—still mostly jewellery.

Moore admitted burning stolen stamps, dollars and Scottish pounds before the police arrived.

He said he did that when he was awakened from sleep by the sound of police whistles.

But he denied having been out that night, except once when he said he went to check his poultry.

And he denied having the sort of gun that killed the policeman—the weapon has never been found.

NAME QUERY

During two hours and 25 minutes in the witness-box Moore answered many questions by the prosecuting counsel, Mr. G. R. Hinchcliffe, like this: "According to you, it was some other man who shot Police Constable Jagger, and then fired four shots at Inspector Fraser?—It must have been some other man."

Moore's fair-haired wife was not in court when sentence was passed, though she sat through the evidence.

He did not call her to give evidence. Neither did the prosecution call on his ten-year-old daughter Patricia, who gave evidence before the magistrate in a lower court.

It was the first time Mr. Justice Pearson had passed the death sentence. After placing the black cap on his head, he left the court and forgot formally to discharge the jury.

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Answers

1. In Bethlehem, about six miles south of Jerusalem. 2. In the northern countries of Europe and ancient Rome. 3. Germany. 4. The English. 5. In 1850. 6. The Druids.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith

It does not appear that the "Austerlitz" was scuttled on abandonment, which is much to be regretted, and on board vessels traversing the North Pacific a better than ordinary look out will require to be kept for some time to come, or in some dark night the hull may be found foul of.

"Chelsea Navy Pensioners"

London, Dec. 23. Army pensioners have their "Chelsea," but sailors have no such home until an ex-Chief Petty Officer had an idea. Now through the initiative of Mr. Valentine Smith the Naval authorities have obtained Pembroke House in London where more than 30 aged ex-naval men can be accommodated.

Mr. Smith, supported by the Salisbury and district branch of the White Ensign Association, kept the idea before the Central Committee of the Royal Naval Benevolent Trust, for more than two years. Pembroke House, which only a few months ago was used as a children's home for orphans of men of the Chatham Division, became vacant recently and was offered to the Trust at a moderate rental. The first batch of ex-naval men will be installed in the New Year. Mr. Smith, who lives with his wife and daughter in Salisbury, served in the Royal Navy from 1907 until 1922.

Living Language

Why we say Canopy.

The Greek word for mosquito was "konops", and a "konopeon" was a bed with curtains to protect it from mosquitoes. Our own word "canopy" has come gradually to describe something more formal than a mosquito-curtain, and means a covering of state over a throne or couch.

When Jet Pilots Are Downstairs

London, Dec. 23. The trouble with jet pilots, according to Air-Marshal Mc-Neece Foster, who said that he has probably flown more miles with these intrepid young men than any other senior officer in the R.A.F., is this:—

When they fly eight miles high at 400-or-more miles an hour through colder-than-freezing air, they have their fellows' lives in their hands and have to be responsible far beyond their years. So—

When they land there is a great reaction and often they are not as responsible as other people.

All this came up at Oxford when one of these pilots, Flight-Lieutenant Francis Kenneth Mason, stationed at West Malling, Kent, was fined £40 on three motoring summonses.

Mason is 23. It was alleged that for his Bentley car—which is six years older than he is—he "forged" a certificate of insurance, in other words a cover note, by rubbing the date off.

His counsel raised a point that will intrigue all motorists—that a cover note is not a certificate of insurance. This was over-ruled, and he asked the magistrates to state a case.

Ship Abandoned

Captain Low of the N.B. "Palmer" reports that in Lat. 10° 48' N., Long. 159° 10' East, he came up with the American ship "Austerlitz" of Boston from San Francisco bound to Calcutta in ballast—totally dismasted, bends much torn and chain plate bolts drawn out. Capt. Low hove to and stayed by the "Austerlitz" from 2 p.m. until 4 a.m. of the following day, when, on consideration of the great distance from any port (2,500 miles from Manila) and the little prospect of being able to make an anchorage, it was determined that the "Austerlitz" should be abandoned—and she was abandoned accordingly. Captain and Mrs. Daychild, and the whole of the crew of the "Austerlitz" safely reached Shanghai in the N.B. "Palmer" on the 28th ultimo; and thence the former have since arrived here in the "Shooting Star."

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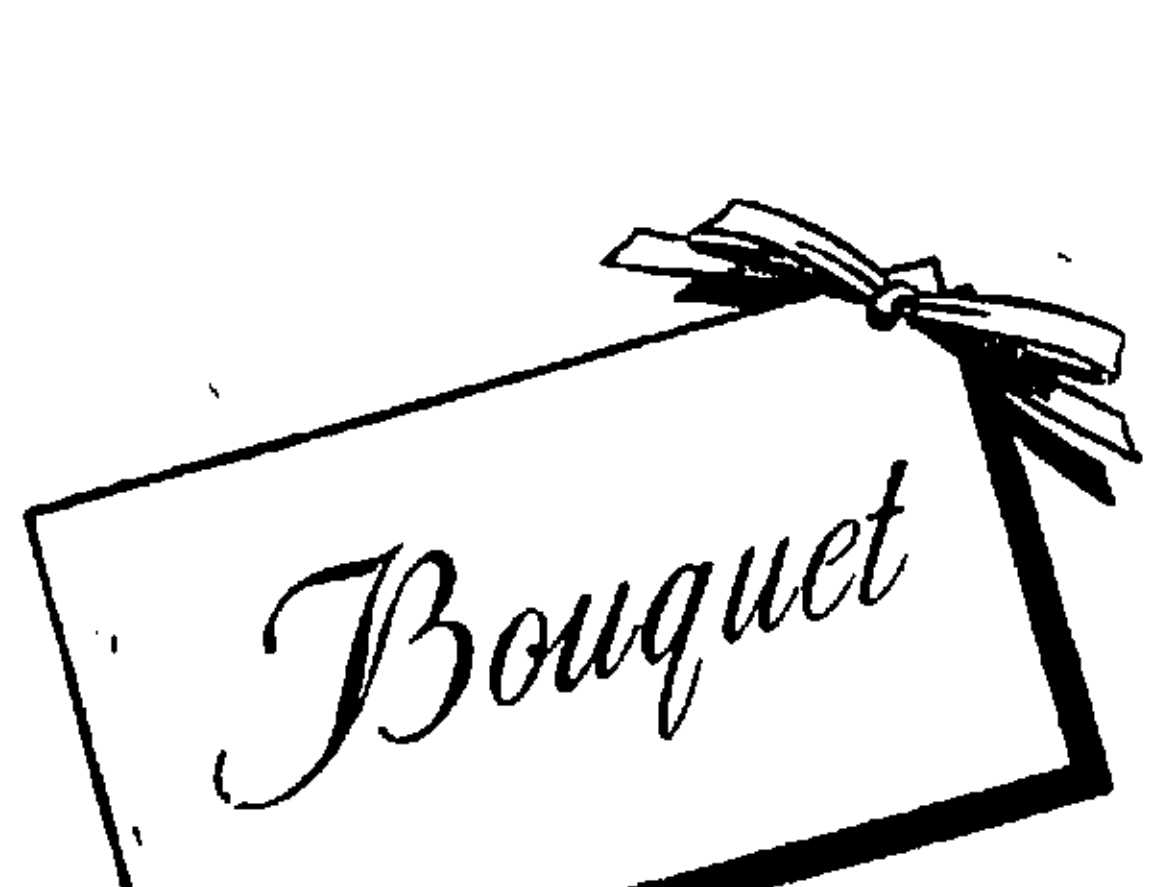
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